# STARS STRIPES.

**Stiller emerges** as box-office powerhouse Page 21



**Batman ioins** ranks at Irag's **Camp Liberty** Page 8



**Ancient French** fortress comes to life

Quick Trips, Page 16

Volume 63, No. 281 © SS 2005

TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2005

# Iraqi unit arrests top al-Qaida lieutenant

Detained leader allegedly behind deadly car bombings in Baghdad



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## e ws Tracker ... What's new with old news

#### States

Snow delays clergy sex trial: The winter storm that pounded the North-east prompted Mass. Gov. Mitt Romney to keep some nonessential state workers home Monday, including emovees at the courthouse where a high-pro-

file clergy sex abuse case was to begin. Romney's announcement meant that opening statements in the trial of defrocked priest Paul Shanley would not begin in Middlesex Superior Court until Tuesday. A jury was seated last week

#### Military

Aircraft lawsuit: The families of five National Guardsmen killed when their transport plane crashed in Georgia four years ago settled their lawsuit Monday against the aircraft's manufacturers.

The families will receive \$3.75 million from the companies that made and main-tained the C-23 B+ Sherpa cargo plane and its parts: Montreal-based Bombardier Inc. and its subsidiary, plane maker Short Brothers PLC: Duncan Aviation Inc. of Lincoln. Neb.; and Rockwell International of Milwaukee and its former subsidiary Rockwell Collins Inc. of Cedar Rapids, Jowa

#### World

Vioxx death report: The medical journal the Lanced published a study Tuesday of deaths related to the anti-inflammatory drug Vioxx after withholding the report because the researcher said he had been threatened by superiors at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Dr. David Graham, who works in the FDA's office of drug safety, has said he was firmly discouraged from publishing his data questioning the safety of Vioxx, which was withdrawn from the market in Sentember

Microsoft in Europe: Microsoft Corp. will not appeal an interim European Union rul-ing forcing it to strip Media Player from its Windows platform, and said the first versions of its flagship operating system without the music and video playing program will arrive at EU retailers in the coming

Kosovo's future: A senior European Union official said Monday the EU intends to discuss Kosovo's future with President Bush during his February stop in Europe. EU Enlargement Commissioner Olli

Rehn said the organization expects also to discuss the future of the Western Balkans, one of the poorest regions in Europe, which is still recovering from the decadelong ethnic conflicts of the 1990s.

Austrian church exodus: A cleric who led a Vatican investigation into the discovery of a large cache of child pornography at a Roman Catholic seminary in Austria says he sees no end in sight to the record number



Sudan visit: Families sit outside their shelters Thursday in a camp for returnees in Rumbel in southern Sudan. U.S. lawmakers who met with Darfur rebels in western Sudan and visited camps for Sudanese refugees in Chad over the weekend said they will ask Washington to push for U.N. sanctions against the Sudanese government. The lawmakers will also be asking for a larger African Union peacekeeping force in Darfur as well as expanding its mandate to begin enforcing existing cease-fire agreements, a congressional staff member said. Also Monday, leaders of Sudan's main southern rebel movement unanimously endorsed an agreement to end the civil war, paving the way for a new constitution.

of disillusioned Austrians leaving the church

Bishop Klaus Kueng told Austrian television in an interview Sunday night that "for so many, the connection with the church has become thin" following last year's scandal

Bird flu pandemic: World Health Organiza tion members struggled Monday to find common ground on how countries should tackle any future influenza pandemic, especially a potential human variant of deadly bird flu.

A session of the 32-nation WHO executive board in Geneva was bogged down on the issue of whether countries hit by a massive outbreak could override patents on anti-flu drugs, and the meeting was halted to let delegates call their governments for guidance.

Al-Qaida suspects: Two alleged al-Qaida members accused of plotting an attack in Iraq went before a federal judge Monday in Frankfrut, Germany, and could face up to 10 years in jail if found guilty of belonging to a terrorist organization.

The men were arrested Sunday in the western cities of Mainz and Bonn. At a closed-door session in the southern city of Karlsruhe, a judge was determining whether there was sufficient evidence to order them held pending charges.

#### War on terrorism

British detainees at Gitmo: British Muslim leaders lobbied the government Monday to give medical treatment and counseling to four Britons expected to return home this week from the U.S. base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, where they were held for more than three years

The Muslim Council of Britain said the four, some of whom claim they were tortured, would be heavily traumatized and in need of care

Kidnapped journalist: The director of the French newspaper Liberation said Monday he suspects that one of his reporters missing for nearly three weeks in Iraq has been kidnapped for ransom, although there was still no word on her fate.

The newspaper's Florence Aubenas and her Iraqi translator, Hussein Hanoun al-Saadi, were last seen leaving her Baghdad hotel on Jan. 5.

About 40 editorial chiefs from major French media and international media organizations with offices in Paris met at Liberation's Paris headquarters Monday to discuss coverage of Iraq in the wake of Aubenas' disappearance.

Stories and photo from The Associated Press

### TODAY IN STRIPES

Abby, Annie's Mailbox American Roundup	24
Classified	25-26
Comics	22-24
Crossword	
Faces	21
Horoscope	22
Letters	
Opinion	14-15
Sports	27-36
TV listings	20
Weather	17
Your Money	13

### Correction

In Friday's edition of Stars and Stripes, the wrong date was given for the memorial service of Spc. Lossie K. Brown, 94th Engineer Battalion, who died Jan. 18 in a car accident near Grafenwöhr, Germany. Brown's memorial service was held Monday at the Grafenwöhr main post chapel

## Comics, horoscopes and advice every day in Stars and Stripes



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## GIs get gear appropriate for deployment

### Army steps in to give soldiers equipment they had been buying for downrange

By WARD SANDERSON Stars and Stripes

GERMERSHEIM, Germany — About 3,700 soldiers in Europe have walked out of a green warehouse building at a remote Army depot this month and come away with savings.

Those savings aren't necessarily green, but desert camouflage. To keep troops from spending what the Army found was an average of \$500 per year on equipment, the service is now issuing troops every-thing from improved helmets to seasonal boots. The service plans to issue the gear to every soldier headed to Afghanistan, and to as many troops as possible serving in Iran.

"When we initially went down we didn't have any fielding like this," said Sgt. Carl Johnson with the 29th Support Group, based in Kaiserslautern. Johnson was on his way to Afghanistan but had previously served in Iraq. He said he could have used both cold-weather and hot-weather boots there, despite the region's reputation as a hotbox. It rains and gets muddy in winter.

were, wespite the region's reputation as a hotbox. It rains and gets muddy in winter. "So that definitely helps," Johnson said of the winter-issue boots. "They're Gore-Tex."

The troops who lined up for gear and to get quick lessons on how to wear the new-style helmets were on the businessed end of the Rapid Fielding Initiative, the Army's plan to give soldiers the gear they generally tended to buy themselves or that he Army has determined the troops need downrance.

All troops would get better helmets and boots. Troops with brigade combat teams would get the extra kit, such as grappling hooks, door rams, battle axes and fiber-optic viewers.

"None of this is rocket science, but I've



RAYMOND T. CONWAY/Stars and Strines

Sgt. John Cooling, left, helps Pfc. Christopher Keyes adjust his new Advanced Combat Helmet in Germersheim, Germany, on Monday. The soldiers from the 29th Support Group in Kaiserslautern, Germany, soon will deploy to Afghanistan and were issued sever al new items under the Army Materiel Command's Rapid Fleiding Initiative to "enhance the soldiers survivability, lethality and mobility with mission essential equipment." had soldiers say to me, 'If my feet are cold, I'm not combat effective,' " said Chuck Fick, spokesman for the Army Materiel Command Field Support Brigade-Europe. Another Kaiserslautern soldier, Spc.

Gabriel George, had already purchased a fleece jacket and glowes similar to those he picked up Monday. He was nonetheless relieved the Army decided to hand it out, too. "It's better to have too much than not enough," George said. "There's always some sucker that didn't bring his. Tim glad

about it. It's good stuff."
Staff Sgt. Evelyn Charles, also stationed
in Kaiserslautern, said she liked the new
helmets. "They're more comfortable," she

The Advanced Combat Helmet is designed to be more comfortable and less intrusive to vision than traditional Kevlar helmets

"The padding system inside is a little bit lighter than the old Kevlar," said Jun Siang-co, who was the operations manager on site from Team Soldier, the command determining what gear is issued in the program. "And it's more stable. It's like a forball hel-

met."

Troops who don't have the gear yet should expect to get it someday. It's to become standard issue for troops downrange.

"This equipment will be given to all sol-

"This equipment will be given to all soldiers at some stage," said Gary James, site manager of the Army Materiel Command's Germersheim depot. "It's basically an upgrade." Not all troops get the same gear, though.

A headquarters staff member likely wouldn't get the grappling hook.

"They're looking at the soldier of the future," James said. "Things aren't the same for every soldier. This is an ongoing process."

E-mail reporter Ward Sanderson at sandersonw@mail.estripes.osd.mil

### Mullen visits Belgrade for top-level talks

The Associated Press

BELGRADE, Serbia-Montenegro — The NATO commander for southeastern Europe held toplevel talks Monday in Belgrade on security issues and ongoing defense reforms in Serbia-Montene-

Adm. Michael G. Mullen, in charge of NATO's Joint Force Command based in Naples, Italy, met with Defense Minister Prvoslav Davinic and Serbian Prime Minister Vojislav Kostunica. He was to meet President Boris Tadic.

Davinic told reporters that security issues in Kosovo — the southern, ethnic Albanian majority province run by NATO-led peacekeepers and a U.N. mission — figured highly in the talks.

Belgrade has been concerned for Kosovo's minority Serbs, targeted in ethnic attacks in March. The province remains only officially part of Serbia-Montenegro, Yugoslavia's successor state.

Mullen expressed confidence that peacekeepers were "now in very good shape" to prevent violence such as last year's rampage by ethnic Albanian mobs.



Eye on the prize

> Sgt. 1st Class Tom Siple of Dallas, Texas, and the 52nd Signal Battalion, frolicks in the snow Monday with Yogi, his 5-year-old Chihuahua-Jack Russell terrier mix at Kelley Barracks in Stuttgart, Germany. An overnight storn coated many local

coated many local roads with a sheet of ice, causing schools and offices in the Stuttgart military community to open two hours late. Light snow was forecast for Tues-

day and Wednesday.

CHARLIE COON

Stars and Stripes

## USAF, Navy might turn away recruits

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — While the Army and the Marine Corps are straining to meet recruiting goals, the Air Force and the Navy may wind up turning away thousands of potential recruits, according to a report in IISA Todav.

The Air Force told the paper it has a backlog of about 9,000 enlistees who have not yet been called to duty

duty.

It has slashed its 2005 recruiting target from 35,000 to 24,000. Together, the Air Force and Navy say they are planning to reduce the total number of troops by

more than 27,000 in 2005, USA Today reported.

In contrast, the Army and the Marine Corps, which are providing the bulk of ground troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, are adding more than 12,000 troops this year.

One of the primary reasons the Air Force and the Navy are so flush with troops and willing recruits, personnel experts say, is that those branches have suffered relatively few casualties in Iraq and Afghani-

"I think the most obvious explanation is that you're less likely to be killed or wounded in the Navy or Air Force," Richard Kohn, a professor at the University of North Carolina who studies military culture, told the paper.

Of the more than 1,350 U.S. deaths during the Iraq war, 41 have come from the Air Force and the Navy, according to a Defense Department breakdown.

Both the Marines and the Army say they expect to meet their recruiting goals this year but acknowledge it will be difficult, USA Today reported.

## New gym opens its doors at Gricignano



Katholeen Sullivan was the first customer to enter the brand nev Fitness Forum gym at the Gricignano support site in Naples, Italy, which opened Monday.

Stare and Strings

NAPLES, Italy - It was like Christmas in January on Monday for Petty Officer 2nd Class Ricky Dyer, who has been "waiting ages" for a gym to open at the Gricignano support site, where the Navy placed its housing units.

The 32-year-old surgical technician at the hospital across the street from the Fitness Forum said he couldn't be more appreciative of the convenience the new state-of-the-art facility now affords him. Before Monday's grand opening, he'd have to drive the roughly 20 minutes to the Capodichino base for a workout.

"This is great. I've been waiting a long, long time for this place to open," Dyer said.

The only downside Dyer could see was the close proximity of all of the weight-training equipment "When it's crowded, they might be too close for comfort," he said.

Katholeen Sullivan was the gym's very first customer, arriving at 6 a.m. on the dot to sneak in a 30-minute workout before her four children went off to school.

The Navy spent more than \$850.000 on new equipment which includes "cardio theaters" where customers can plug in earphones to hear music, news or sports on the unright and recumbent exercise bikes and stair step-

she said



After several delays, the new Fitness Forum gym at Gricignano support site, Naples, Italy, finally opened for business at 6 a.m. Monday. The Navy spent more the \$850,000 on new equipment

ners, said Dominick Corrado. sports and fitness director. Eventreadmills and the cross-trainers each will have its own 17-inch plasma television for workout entertainment, he said.

The facility boasts an outdoor pool, two racquetball courts, a spin room with 26 stationary bikes, an aerobics room, free weight room, circuit weight area, cardio area, and men's and women's locker rooms with dry sau-

The basketball court is lined for competition and intramural play and will have six backboards and three volleyball setups

The pool, with eight lanes, a one-meter diving board, and a 50-foot slide in the deep end, will open Memorial Day weekend (May 28) and operate through Labor Day. The pool features an outdoor Jacuzzi and a children's pool. The pool will have seasonal water aerobics, swim lessons, water exercise and military lap

Gym hours are from 6 a.m. to 8 m. Monday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sunday and American holidays.

E-mail Sandra Jontz at:

## Sailors in Europe to get Gitmo guard duty

BY SANDRA JONTZ Stars and Stripes

NAPLES, Italy - Sailors from U.S. Navy bases in Europe will deploy to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, in March to give a reprieve to U.S. soldiers currently guarding detainees at the U.S. military prison there.

The 12 sailors from European installations will join 35 Navy masters-at-arms from the Pacific bases of Misawa Naval Air Facility, Yokosuka Naval Base, Atsugi Naval Air Facility, and Sasebo Naval Base, officials have said

Europe-based sailors will deploy for up to 290 days, while Pacific-based sailors will head to Cuba for 120 days, Pacific officials told Stars and Stripes last week. Officials in Europe do not know why the deployment orders differ.

The 12 sailors from Europe, nine of whom are enlisted sailors and three are officers, will receive one-week general custodial training at Navy Region Southeast in Jacksonville, Fla., before moving on to a two-week detainee training course provided by the Army at Fort Lewis, Wash., said Chief Petty Officer John Musser, a spokesman for Navy Region Command-Europe.

Also unlike the Pacific command's contribution, not all of the Europe-based sailors are masters-at-arms; though all do have a Naval Enlisted Classification code of 9575 for correctional custody specialist ashore, Musser said

"They have different rates and come from different commands, but they are a dynamic group of several enlisted that NEC," Musser said. For example, one sailor is a religious-program specialist in a chaplain's office, but has NEC 9575

Because they come from different ratings and different bases, their absence is not expected to adversely affect day-to-day operations, he said.

"We don't want to rob Peter to pay Paul, but this is what we can do, so that's what we're doing," he said.

No exact departure date has been set, Musser said F-mail Sandra Jontz at: iontzs@mail.estrines.osd.n

## GI appears on cover of Time



In this handout provided by Time magazine, Pfc. Christopher Luian, of Rio Rancho, N.M., is shown on the cover of the Jan. 31 issue on patrol in Mosul, Iraq. Time magazine's special report on Iraq's upcoming elections brings the war closer to home for his parents, Carol and Samuel Lujan. The cover captures a stoic image of the young New Mexico soldier - the first glimpse of their son since his deployment to the Middle East last January. Lujan's family is one of many military families waiting - and watching - amid vows by rebels to disrupt balloting in next weekend's vote. When Lujan's commander called the soldier's father, he also said Luian was returning to the states next month.

### McCain seeks hearing about new DOD spy unit

THOMAS B EDSALL The Washington Post

WASHINGTON - Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., said the enate Armed Services Committee will hold hearings on a Washington Post report that the Department of Defense is reinterpreting U.S. law to give the secretary broad authority over clandestine operations abroad.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld has created a new espionage unit called the Strategic Support Branch, ac-cording to the news report, but McCain, speaking on CBS's "Face the Nation" said he doubts Rumsfeld has bro-

"I'm always sorry to read about things in The Washington Post when they affect a committee that I am a member of," McCain said.

Pentagon spokesman Lawrence T. Di Rita Sunday issued a carefully worded statement that appears to dispute parts of the Post article. "There is no unit that is directly reportable to the secre

tary of defense for clandestine operations as is described in the Washington Post," he said. In addition, Di Rita said, "the Department is not at-

tempting to 'bend' statutes to fit desired activities, as is suggested in this article."

At the same time, Di Rita said: "It is accurate and should not be surprising that the Department of Defense is attempting to improve its long-standing human intelli-

gence capability Di Rita said the war on terror necessitates "a frame-

work by which military forces and traditional human intelligence work more closely together and in greater numbers than they have in the past. These actions are being taken within existing statutory authorities to support traditional military operations and any assertion to the contrary is wrong

The Strategic Support Branch, according to the Post, was designed to expand the Pentagon's use of "humint" or human intelligence operations, including the recruitment of spies and interrogation of prisoners. The recruited agents could include "notorious figures" whose ties to the United States would be embarrassing if revealed, according to a Pentagon memo.

## Iraqi forces arrest al-Zarqawi's top aide

BAGHDAD - Iraqi security forces have arrested the "most lethal" top lieutenant of al-Qaida's leader in Iraq - a man allegedly behind most of the car bombings in Baghdad since the U.S.-led invasion, including the 2003 assault on U.N. headquarters that killed 22 people, the prime minister's office said Monday.

Sami Mohammed Ali Said al-Jaaf, also known as Abu Omar al-Kurdi, was arrested during a Jan. 15 raid in Baghdad, a government statement said Monday, Two other militants linked to Jordanian-born

### Suspect allegedly responsible for most of the Baghdad car bombings since invasion

Abu Musab al-Zarqawi's terror group also were arrested, authorities announced Mon-

Al-Zargawi heads al-Qaida in Irag, the terror network's local affiliate. The group is behind many of the car bombings, beheadings, assassinations and other attacks driving the insurgency in Iraq.

The suspect was linked to the August 2003 bombing of U.N. headquarters in Baghdad, which killed the top U.N. envoy in Iraq, Sergio Vieira de Mello, and 21 others. The U.N. attack was "planned and directed by two others affiliated with Abu Omar," the statement said.

Al-Jaaf was responsible for 32 car bombing attacks that killed hundreds of Iragis. the statement said Al-Jaaf "confessed to building approximately 75 percent of the car bombs used in attacks in Baghdad spokesman for interim Prime Minister Avad Allawi.

Abu Omar al-Kurdi claims responsibility for some of the most ruthless attacks on Iraqi police forces and police stations, al-Naqib said.

The suspect built the car bomb used to attack a shrine in the Shiite holy city of Najaf that killed more than 85 people, including Avatollah Mohammed Bagir al-Hakim, in August 2003.

He also assembled the car bomb used to assassinate Izzadine Saleem, president of the now-defunct Iraqi Governing Council in May, the statement said.

## Suicide car bomber strikes outside Allawi HQ in Iraq

BAGHDAD - A suicide driver detonated a car bomb outside the prime minister's party headquarters Monday, injuring 10 people in a blast claimed by the al-Oaida affiliate in Iraq.

The suicide bomber struck at a police checkpoint on the road leading to Prime Minister Ayad Allawi's Iraqi National Accord offices in central Baghdad, shaking the city center with a thunderous explosion. The wounded included eight policemen and two civilians, said Dr. Mudhar Abdul-Hussein of Yarmouk Hospital.

Al-Qaida's wing in Iraq said in a Web posting that "one of the young lions in the suicide regicarried out the attack against the party office of Allawi, "the agent of the Jews and the Christians. The attacks occurred six days

before Iraq's crucial national elections, the first since the fall of Saddam Hussein in 2003

Insurgents have condemned the elections and vowed to disrunt them

In an audiotape posted Sunday on the Web, a speaker claiming to be Abu Musab al-Zarqawi de-clared "fierce war" on democracy and said anyone who takes part in next weekend's Iraqi elections would be considered "an infidel 3

"We have declared a fierce war on this evil principle of democracv and those who follow this wrong ideology," the speaker said. "Anyone who tries to help set up this system is part of it."

The sneaker warned Iragis to be careful of "the enemy's plan to implement so-called democracy in your country." He said the Americans have engineered the election to install Shiite Muslims in power. Al-Zargawi, who is a Sunni Arab like most of the insurgents here, has in the past branded Shiites as heretics

The authenticity of the tape could not immediately be verified

The Jordanian-born al-Zargawi heads al-Qaida in Iraq, the terror network's local affiliate. The group is behind many of the car bombings, beheadings, assassinations and other attacks driving the insurgency in Iraq.

The United States has offered a



sement park is seen in front of Iraqi police securing the area following a car oomb explosion Monday in Baghdad. The suicide car bomber struck near Iraqi interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi's party headquarters, injuring at least 10 people, police and hospital officials said.

\$25 million reward for al-Zargawi's capture or death — the same amount as for al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden

In the election, voters are to choose a 275-member National Assembly and legislatures in each of the 18 provinces. Voters in the Kurdish-ruled area of the north will also elect a new region-

American and Iraqi officials have warned they expect rebels to unleash bloodshed and mayhem to keep voters from the polls in what supporters are advertising as the first free election in this country since the overthrow of Irag's monarchy in 1958.

In other election news, an Arab political faction has pulled out of this weekend's general elections because Kurds deported by Saddam Hussein from Kirkuk were given the right to vote in the city, the leader of the group said Mon-

Wasfi Assi Hassan al-Obeidi said his 24-member United Arab Front decided to withdraw because "we are not happy about al-lowing deported Kurds to register and vote in Kirkuk."

Kurdish political leaders had initially threatened a boycott of the vote, but decided earlier this

month to participate after authorities met their demands to allow displaced Kurds to return and cast ballots in the city.

Some Kurds have called for Kirkuk to be made part of the autonomous Kurdistan, a Switzerland-sized area of northern Iraq where Kurds have ruled them selves since the end of the 1991 Persian Gulf War.

In Afghanistan. President Hamid Karzai urged Iraqis to follow the example of Afghan citizens in turning out for landmark elections despite the threat of violence, saying their votes would help their country toward pros-

"The Iraqi people must not fear terrorists. Instead, they should make their elections a success with bravery and courage ... they must endeavor to ensure the rule of democracy and the right to elect their leader," Karzai said in

a statement. The U.S.-backed Afghan leader won Afghanistan's first ever direct vote for president on Oct. 9. almost three years after American forces ousted the Taliban for harboring Osama bin Laden.

Violence continues in Iraq, with three U.S. soldiers were wounded Sunday in a mortar attack in Samarra north of Baghdad, including one seriously, the U.S. command said.

On Sunday night, insurgents blew up three schools to be used as polling centers in Tikrit.

Gunmen firing from a speeding car shot dead an Iragi police lieutenant as he was returning home Sunday night in Baghdad, an Inte rior Ministry official said. North of the capital, the deputy governor of Irag's Divala province. Ghassan al-Khadran, escaped an assassination attempt Monday morning as a roadside bomb struck his car.

On Monday, mortar rounds slammed into an Iragi National Guard camp near Baghdad International Airport as the rumble of distant explosions reverberated through the capital. There was no report of casualties in the mortar attack.

Monday's blast in Baghdad rattled buildings along the Tigris River in the center of the city and sent black smoke rising above the skyline, U.S. military helicopters cut through overcast skies above

Police fired on the car as it sped toward them, killing the driver as the blast ripped the vehicle apart, said an Interior Ministry of-

Splintered police vehicles were

## U.S. deaths in Iraq

As of Sunday, at least 1,372 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count.

At least 1,077 died as a result of hostile action, the Defense Department said. The figures include three military ci-

The AP count is four higher than the Defense Department's tally, last updated at 10 a.m. Friday

The British military has reported 76 deaths; Italy, 20; Poand, 16; Ukraine, 16; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three: Estonia. Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Latvia and Kazakhstan one death each

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,234 U.S. military members have died, ac-cording to AP's count. That includes at least 968 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's num-

The latest deaths reported by the military

■ A U.S. soldier was killed Saturday on a security patrol in Mosul, Iraq.
The latest identifications re-

ported by military: ■ No identifications report-

engulfed in flames, and gunfire rattled after the explosion. Meanwhile, an Iraqi lawyer on

Saddam Hussein's defense team has received several death threats in the last three weeks and has gone into hiding, the chief defense attorney for the deposed Iraqi leader said Monday. Khalil al-Duleimi, one of 25 at-

torneys representing Saddam, told other lawyers on the team that the threats followed his Dec. 16 meeting with the ousted Iraqi leader, according to chief defense attorney Ziad al-Khasawneh.

## **General: Iran instability could harm Afghan mission**

By Stephen Graham The Associated Press

BAGRAM, Afghanistan - A senior American commander in Afghanistan said Monday he knew of no U.S. spying missions in Iran and cautioned that instability in Tehran could harm his mission.

The New Yorker magazine last week reported that the U.S. military since last year has been carrying out undercover reconnaissance operations to gather intelligence and targeting information inside Iran.

Maj. Gen. Eric Olson, the operational commander of U.S. forces pursuing Taliban and al-Qaida remnants in Afghanistan, told The Associated Press he was unaware of any such operations, but he also said they would not come under his control

Asked if he feared Iran could react to such missions — or even the perception that they had taken place — by trying to create problems in Afghanistan, Olson said: "I think it is in Afghanistan's interest to see stability in Iran and anything that is destabilizing or causes turmoil in Iran, especially close to the border, would not be good for Afghanistan and would not be good for my mission."

Pulitzer Prize-winning writer Seymour Hersh reported in The New Yorker that President Bush's administration had been "conducting secret reconnaissance mis-sions inside Iran at least since last sum-U.S. Defense Department officials said the article was filled with mistakes but did not deny its basic point.

Bush says his administration will not rule out the possibility of using military force against Iran over its controversial nuclear program. [See related story on Page 12.] Vice President Cheney said Thursday that Iran "is right at the top of the list" of world trouble spots.

Iran's intelligence minister, Ali Yunesi, said Sunday that a U.S. military strike against it would be a strategic blunder, and he brushed aside tough talk from Washington as psychological warfare rather than a real threat. Iranian officials say no American commandos have entered Iran.

Olson, speaking to an AP reporter after making a presentation to Kabul-based diplomats at the main U.S. base north of Kabul, said the only Iran-related operations run by the 18,000 mainly American soldiers under his command were efforts to intercept spies or militants entering Afghanistan from the west.

Olson told diplomats that Taliban militants had been so weakened by U.S. operations and the advances of Hamid Karzai's government that his forces would soon spend more time on reconstruction than nursuing militants.

## 'Rambo' helps keep U.S. base in Kabul secure

### Tough Afghan guards Camp Phoenix gates

By KEVIN DOUGHERTY Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan taxi stops near the front gate of Camp Phoenix on the outskirts of Kabul. Within seconds a short, stocky man wielding a pipe starts to approach the vehicle. The man with the lead stick means business.

"Move the car," he demands in a language anyone could understand "Move the car Now!

The occupant hastily pays his fare, and the taxi driver wastes no time backing away.

With the way clear, the Afghan man U.S. soldiers call "Rambo" returns to his post just inside the gate to resume his vigil.

A person would be hard pressed to find anyone in the camp who doesn't know or hasn't heard of Rambo, so named by troops in the 10th Mountain Divi sion "He's definitely a legend on

this camp," Sgt. Michael Sweet

While Sweet, an Indiana National Guardsman, is a shift sergeant, it's abundantly clear that Rambo is the primary gatekeeper. In June 2003, when U.S. forces

first rolled up to the front gate of what was then a Russian-Afghan transport company. Rambo was waiting. He hasn't left.

Stories of Rambo permeate the base. Some are factual. Others

"This is my hooch," he says through an interpreter as he opens the door to a small, cramped room immediately off the front gate

His real name is Jamal Udin, born in Kabul "maybe 41 years ago," he said, to parents who moved to the capital from northern Afghanistan.

For many Afghans, details such as years and dates aren't all that critical. As a teen, he said, he served as

a conscript in the Afghan army. which, at the time, was under the thumb of the Russians.

After military service, Udin got a truck-driving job with the transport company. His trips took him



PHOTOS BY KEVIN DOLL EPTY/Stare and Strings

Above: Jamal Udin, known as "Rambo" to U.S. troops in Kabul, Afghanistan, snaps a salute to a military vehicle entering Camp Phoenix, east of the capital. Udin has stood watch at the front gate for more than two years. He carries a lead pipe to ward off danger and salutes every military vehicle heading off or on base.
Right: U.S. troops said "Rambo" has been a huge help patrolling the front gate and keeping the base safe.

all over the region: Iran. Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Pakistan.

It was during this time that he married his wife, Shahgull, who was a couple of years younger than he was. By Afghan standards. Udin had a good life. He had a steady job, an apartment, six children and a wife he adored.

The turning point for Udin, he said, came several years ago when a rocket-propelled grenade apparently fired by a Taliban soldier slammed into his apartment. killing his wife.

Udin remembers the time of day - 10 or 11 a.m. - but not the The Taliban captured Kabul in September 1996, but were beating back counterattacks for sometime afterward so it could've been 1997.

"We loved each other," Udin said of his wife, "which is why I will never remarry."

Ildin took his broad - four sons and two daughters — to Pakistan, where Shahgull has family. They remained there for about four years.

"While I was in Pakistan, I saw President Bush and his wife on TV," Udin said. "They said: 'We will help Afghanistan. We will rebuild Afghanistan' That's why I like Americans, and why I like to work for them."

That commitment to his couny prompted him to return to Kabul. Because Udin had sold his apartment, the only logical place to go, he figured, was his old workplace. His bosses didn't have a driver's job open, so they assigned him to the front gate and he's been there ever since.

"He takes a lot of work off of our hands," said Spc. David Young, who, like Sweet, is with Company C. 151st Infantry Battal-

Udin has an incredible capacity to remember faces, Sweet said He always knows who belongs on hase and who doesn't If a stranger approaches, the man they call Rambo steps forward first to sort things out. And his lead pipe,

wrapped in red tape, rarely leaves his hand, sending a subtle but convincing message not to

The guy is dependable, too Udin typically works from 5:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., every night. Last year, he can recall taking only two days off. Every fourth or fifth night, he'll visit his brother's house to see his daughter Zarmina, who is now 10.

While IIdin frets about his daughter, the troops worry about

Udin's room is filled with gifts from well-meaning, young Americans. A general's driver from the previous rotation gave him a TV; a sergeant from the Indiana Guard bought him a space heater; and another current occupant of the base, a female soldier, pre-sented him with a blanket, gloves and a black, wool hat with the name "Rambo" stitched across it.

And that's only scratching the surface. There are several 12-pack soda boxes, instant soup, snacks, sunglasses and even a bottle of bubbles, the type that kids like to play with. Udin also has his

own camouflage uniform. "They are always taking care of me," he said. The attention, he added, "makes me work harder and harder for them.

For months after the Americans arrived, Udin refused to accept money. His company was already paying him, and he saw no reason to double usp. name company quit paying him, he ac-Today, his monthly salary is \$420, plus meals.

"Have a good day, Rambo," Spc. David A. Pranger said after he delivered lunch to Udin.



"He's not really military, but we bring him breakfast, lunch and dinner," Pranger added. "He's a cool guy. He's always here to greet us.

Indeed, whenever a military vehicle - U.S. or coalition - enters or leaves the compound, the occupants inside get saluted.

Udin patrols the area outside the gate with a vengeance because the area tends to attract locals looking for work or handouts. The compound is also situated along a busy street.

Terrorists, he explained, might attack the front gate with a car bomb.

A couple of months ago, an Afghan fired on a French military vehicle.

Udin sprang into action immediately and charged the armed man. Before he could disarm him, the French shot the man them

"I'm not scared." Udin said. "I feel like I am in the Army, so if I die, no problem.

"Rambo is one of the most honest, genuine persons I have ever met," Sweet said. "He's worth every penny they pay him. He never complains."

Udin hopes to soon get an apartment so he can move his five children back home. The pay he receives from the Army has helped him immeasurably, but he states he has no intention of abandoning his post any time soon.

"Whenever the Americans leave, I will leave," he said, "As long as they want me to stay, I will stay.

E-mail Kevin Dougherty at: doughertyk@mail.estripes.osd.mil

# Photos from the Front



ABOVE Spc. Scott Brennan, a medic with the 725th Main Support Battalion, examines an Afghan boy's throat during a cooperative medical assistance mission Jan. 18 in Sadak, Afghanistan. Bradley Rhen/U.S. Army

BELOW Sgt. Jason Burchis displays his M16 A4 rifle that had an enemy round hit the front sight post during an ambush in December Rich Mattingly/U.S. Army TOP RIGHT A soldier from the 25th Infantry Division (Light)'s Long Range Surveillance Detachment fast ropes out of a CH-53 Sea Stallion at Bagram Air Base Afghanistan during drills to maintain proficiency.

Chris Stump/U.S. Army





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## REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

Stars and Stripes



nior Airman Joe Batman of the 732nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron stands next to his small locker at Camp Liberty.

## **Batman deployed** to Camp Liberty

otham City is not the only place with a Batman in its ranks.

Baghdad's Camp Liberty has its own - in this case Senior Airman Joe Batman of the 732nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron detachment.

"It's a German name," he explained. "It is, from what I'm told, a German officer's servant.

Whatever its origin, it has drawn a lot of attention to the 25-year-old Dolphin, Va., native.

Batman deployed to Iraq from Alaska's Elmendorf Air Force Base about two months ago and expects to be in country until mid-2005

"We thought it was a joke," said Senior Airman Hugo Vitela. about Batman's pending arrival a few months ago. "We were like 'Ratman? Who the hell is Rat-

His Air Force brethren quickly got used to him — although he still does get a little ribbing from them. When he enters the Tactical Operations Center in their corner of the camp, other Air Force personnel always do the song: "duh-nuh-nuh-nuh" — well you know the rest.

Since the Air Force is greatly outnumbered by Army personnel on the camp most of the attention comes from soldiers, Batman said

"They get really excited," he said. "They do the 'Look, I'm Batman' thing."

"They do the little song," Vitela dded. "You can hear it in the added. background when we're walkinσ

Batman doesn't get upset with the attention drawn by his last name, and has never wished he were "Joe Smith" or something less, well, superhero-like,

"Nah, Batman's too cool," he said

Though single, he hopes to have children someday and pass on the Batman name

But there are some names that

are definitely out for the future

"No Bruces or Robins," he ex-

Though he's probably the only Batman in Baghdad, he's not the only one in the military. His broth-er, Petty Officer 3rd Class Ira Batman, is assigned as a mineman at Naval Station Ingleside, Texas, near Corpus Christi.

### Melancholy magic

Every seat on the bus from the post exchange to the northern part of Camp Liberty was full as it turned toward one of the camp's living areas.

Tunes were blaring, as they do every night in the "Wayne's World" bus, so named because of a niece of naner stuck in the window underneath the bus route

Soldiers new to Iraq talked with the old hands, a couple of whom said they were counting the days until their combat tours were over. Everyone seemed in a pretty good mood as the final few notes of Elton John's "Candle in the Wind" ended.

As the bus pulled into the living area, the first notes of the next song came on.

"Yesterday, all my troubles seemed so far away," crooned Paul McCartney. "Now it looks as though they're here to stay. Oh. I believe in yesterday.

Conversation came to stand-

"Suddenly, I'm not half the man I used to be "There's a shadow hanging

over me." "Wayne's World," it seemed, had just gotten a lot smaller and

much more personal. One newly arrived officer wryly commented that he hoped none of the soldiers would start

It wasn't said in jest.

Stars and Stripes reporter Jason Chudy contributed to this report. He is currently embedded with the 10th Mountain Division in Abu Ghraib, Iraq, and can be reached at: chudvi@mail.estripes.osd.mil

## **British major: Soldiers held** in abuse acted outside order

BY TONY CZUCZKA The Associated Press

OSNABRUECK, Germany — Three British soldiers accused of mistreating detained Iraqi civilians were acting outside an order to put looters to work, their commander testified Monday at their court-martial.

Mai. Dan Taylor testified last week he gave an order to make captured looters "work hard" picking up garbage to deter rampant theft at an aid warehouse outside Basra being guarded by Brit-ish soldiers in May 2003.

However, he said Monday he did not have the group of soldiers supervised by Cpl. Daniel Kenyon, 33, the highest-ranking defendant, enforcing that plan on the day of the alleged abuse.

Their section "had no part in the work phase," Taylor testified.

abuse during the crackdown. British media published photos

of the abuse last week, causing outrage and expressions of disgust from politicians, including rime Minister Tony Blair. One photo shows a bound Iraqi

being dangled over a loading dock by a forklift. Others show him and another Iraqi stripped and apparently forced to simulate sexual acts.

Defense lawyers for the three soldiers from the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers argue that they were following orders, a charge Taylor denied Friday.

In testy exchanges Monday, Taylor also rejected allegations by Kenyon's lawyer that he played down to his superiors how harshly he wanted soldiers to treat captured looters.

'You were trying as hard as

February 5

Italy

Turkey

you could to downgrade the sev ity of your order," said lawyer Jo-seph Giret, who claimed that Taylor misled both his immediate superior and a general who ques-tioned him earlier this month.

"You are prepared to let these soldiers be the sacrificial lambs so your own career can be pre-served," the lawyer added. "That is not correct, sir," Taylor re-

One of the defendants, Lance Cpl. Darren Larkin, 30, has pleaded guilty to one count of battery after prosecutors alleged he was the man shown in a photo standing with both feet on a tied-up Iragi on the ground.

Larkin and Lance Cpl. Mark Cooley, 25, denied all other charges. Cooley is charged with tether ing the detainee to the forklift and driving it. Kenyon is charged with several counts of failing to report abuse to superiors. He has pleaded not guilty.



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### IN THE STATES



Parishioners on Sunday gather at the Memorial Wall for the Unborn at the Sacred Heart of Mary Catholic Church for the burial of several hundred fetuses received from a mortuary in Boulder, Colo.

## **Bush talks to foes staging** a protest of Roe v. Wade

WASHINGTON - President Bush told abortion opponents on Monday he shared their support for "a culture of life" and claimed progress in passing legislation to protect the vulnerable

"We need most of all to change hearts and that is what we're doing." Bush said as anti-abortion activists marked the 32nd anniversary of the Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion with a day of rallies, protests and other activities.

The issue took on new urgency with the likelihood of a high court vacancy

Bush addressed marchers by phone from the presidential re-treat at Camp David, Md. Every anniversary of Roe v. Wade, the 1973 Supreme Court decision, prompts demonstrations by abortion rights opponents and proponents.

Activists on both sides of the abortion issue marched in demon-

### Colorado church buries fetuses

BOULDER, Colo. - A Roman Catholic church buried the ashes of hundreds of aborted fetuses Sunday, a day after the 32nd anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court decision that made abortion legal, drawing criticism that the church was exploiting women's grief to make a political statement.

A crowd of 250 parishioners prayed as the ashes were buried in the Sacred Heart of Mary Church cemetery, while a handful of protesters gathered nearby holding signs that read, "This church is a grave robber." A mortuary hired by the abortion clinic to dispose of the fetuses had been giving the ashes to the church for years to be buried at a memorial. Dr. Warren Hern, clinic director, said he had no idea such an arrangement had been made and said his contract required the mortuary to bury the ashes in its own plot

The church agreed to return the remains of 300 to 500 fetuses that had been cremated in November before the service began Sunday.

strations across the country Saturday, the actual anniversary of the Jan. 23 decision

This year there is increasing speculation about Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist's health. Three other justices have had cancer. One or more court vacancies would give President Bush the chance to install another justice or justices who oppose the Roe decision, increasing the likelihood that at some point, the ruling could be overturned.

## High court rejects Florida appeal in Terry Schiavo case

BY GINA HOLLAND The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The Su preme Court refused Monday to reinstate a Florida law passed to keep a severely brain-damaged

hooked to a feeding tube, clearing the way for it to be removed How soon that would

happen, however. was clear The Flori-

da



preme Court had struck down the law last fall, and the justices were the last hone for state leaders who defended the law in a bitter long running dispute over the fate of Terri Schiavo

Her husband, Michael Schiavo, contends she never wanted to be kept alive artificially. But her parents told justices in a filing that their son-in-law is trying to rush her death so he can inherit her estate and be free to marry

The Supreme Court did not comment in rejecting an appeal from Gov. Jeb Bush, who argued that the state had the authority to step in and pass the 2003 law that ordered Terri Schiavo's feeding tube reinserted six days after her husband had it removed.

The case goes back to state Judge George Greer, who al-ready has ruled that the brain-damaged woman's husband could withdraw her feeding tube. Although several legal challenges are pending, the Supreme

### Supreme Court developments

In other developments Monday, the court:

■ Gave police broader search powers during traffic stops, ruling that drug-sniffing dogs can be used to check out motorists' cars even if officers have no reason to suspect they may be carrying narcotics.

Declined to consider whether states may offer license plates with anti-abortion messages, leaving lower courts divided over whether the programs in a dozen states unconstitutionally restrict dissenting views.

Asked federal courts to reconsider sentences for hundreds of defendants who contend they were wrongly pun-ished under a sentencing system the court declared unconstitutional earlier this month.

■ Reinstated the death sentence of a man convicted of bludgeoning to death an elderly couple in Memphis, Tenn. Justices set aside a ruling by the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for Gary Bradford

■ Threw out the appeal of Mississippi death row inmate Marlon Howell less than two months after hearing his case, on grounds that Howell's legal arguments were not properly argued in lower courts first. From The Associated Press

Court was considered the best hope to stop the removal of the tubes

"It's judicial homicide. They want to murder her," her father, Robert Schindler, said Monday.

### **Hutchinson quits homeland security post**

WASHINGTON - A top Homeland Security Department official resigned his post Monday after he was passed over twice by the Bush administration to be secretary of the agency.

Undersecretary Asa Hutchinson, in charge of border and transportation security issues, submitted his letter of resignation to the White House early Monday morning, said a DHS official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the resignation had not yet been announced Hutchinson is a former Arkansas congressman and

former federal drug czar who is believed to be considering a run for Arkansas governor next year. His resignation is expected to be effective March 1

### Supporters pressing gay marriage ban

WASHINGTON - Senate supporters of a constitutional amendment banning gay marriage said Monday they intend to press for passage in the new Congress, brushing aside mixed signals from the White House on the issue's importance at the start of President Bush's second term.

"Who's to say whether we have enough votes or not." said Sen. Wayne Allard, R-Colo., noting that the new two-year Congress has just begun.

He said he expects GOP leaders to call for a vote before the 2006 elections and added, "I think it would be foolhardy to back off when we've got a good head of steam coming out of the election.

### Conn. judge delays man's execution

HARTFORD, Conn. - A federal judge said Monday he vill order a postponement in the execution of serial killer Michael Ross, who waived his appeals and was set to become the first person put to death in New England in nearlv 45 years.

Judge Robert N. Chatigny said he wants to hear more evidence about Ross' mental capacity.

'I think it is inevitable that I will be issuing a stay postponing an execution until the outcome of this proceeding," Chatigny said. He did not say how long the stay would last.



## Northeast trying to dig out

BY THEO EMERY

The Associated Press

BOSTON - The city's airport partially reopened Monday but schools and courthouses were closed in many areas as the Northeast struggled to recover from the weekend's blizzard.

The roar of snowblowers and the scrape of shovels were heard as residents worked to free their sidewalks and cars from deep mounds of snow.

The storm dumped more than 3 feet of snow on Massachusetts, and drifts were piled up to the eaves of some one-story build-

Frustrated travelers waited for transportation after a weekend in which hundreds of airline flights were canceled.

Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney asked nonessential state workers in the eastern part of the state not to come to work, and Rhode Island Gov. Don Carcieri closed all state and municipal offices Monday. School closings were reported from Maine to parts of Virginia.

At least 15 deaths were linked to the weather: three in Connect cut, three in Ohio, three in Wisconsin, two in Pennsylvania, and one each in Maryland, Delaware, Iowa and Massachusetts

### Social security overhaul

WASHINGTON - A key Senate Republican raised questions Sunday about President Bush's proposal for overhauling Social Security, underscoring the heavy lifting the president faces in selling even members of his own party on his proposal to let vonnger workers put a portion of their payroll taxes into private investm ent accounts. Sen. Olympia Snowe of Maine

a self-described moderate Repub lican who sits on the Senate Finance Committee, said on CNN's "Inside Politics Sunday" that she was "certain-

ly not going to support di verting \$2 trillion from Social Security into creating personal savings ac-counts" — a

reference to concerns that such accounts would deep

en the budget deficit.

"I don't object to personal savings accounts per se, but that's got to be a part of a larger retirement security picture, as one dimension," she said. "But the existing program, as it has been developed in the last 70 years, provides a stable monthly income that has prevented seniors, almost 50 percent, from falling into poverty. I don't think we want to erode the principles of that system.

The support of Snowe and other moderate Republicans will be critical if Bush's plan is to suc-

States of emergency were declared in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New Jersey

On Massachusetts' Nantucket island, where an 84 mph wind gust was reported, the storm plunged the entire island into darkness until most service was restored Sunday night. The island's fire department worked to reach to reach people at risk, such as the elderly and the very young, in areas cut off by drifts up to 6 feet high.

'We just don't have the equip-

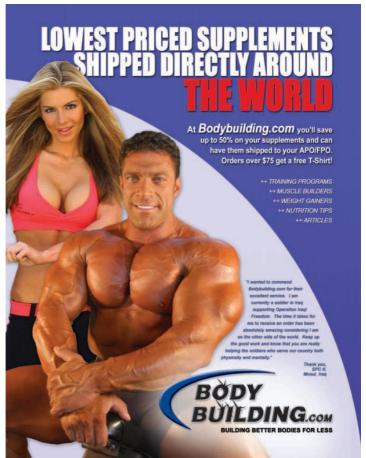
ment to handle that amount of snow," said Nantucket deputy fire chief Mark McDougall

Two eastern Massachusetts communities — Salem and Plvmouth — got 38 inches of sno each, according to the National Weather Service.

Parts of New Hampshire got 2 feet, New York's Catskills collected at least 20 inches and more than a foot fell in parts of New Jersey. Earlier, the weather system had piled a foot of snow across parts of Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana and northern Ohio



Chip Carbone uses a snowblower Monday to remove over two feet of snow from his sidewalk in Providence, R.I.



## **Johnny Carson: One magic night after another**

By DAVID HINCKLEY New York Daily News

With the possible exception of Lucille Ball, no entertainer was ever so adored by the television camera as Johnny Carson during the 30 years he hosted "The Tonight Show."

By fortune and skill, Carson parlayed that affection into a life and a stardom galaxies removed from Corning, Iowa, where he was born Oct. 23, 1925.

He began life as the middle child of Homer and Ruth Carson, hard-working Middle Americans of solid Methodist stock.

He died Sunday at 79 in Los Angeles, as well known as any president, a man who reshaped the role of television and for 30 years reinforced America's hope and belief that the plain man with good old common sense was where you put your money.

Beyond the gaze of the camera. Carson was often described as cold, indifferent and impatient. He was married four times, divorced three

At least twice, he threatened to walk away from "Tonight" because he wanted more money and more time off

After a "Tonight" show, Carson's ritual for years was to re turn to his dressing room, close

the door and drink a beer alone No Ed McMahon, his affable sidekick for almost as long as he'd been on TV. No Doc Severinsen,

his bandleader. And certainly no guests, Carson rarely talked with guests before the camera went on or after it shut off. A "Tonight" gig was a

business relationship. that was known about Johnny Carson. It didn't matter. On May 22, 1992, Carson walked away from "Tonight" to a standing ovation from a grateful nation. He spent the last dozen years of his life finally doing whatever he wanted, without anybody watching him, asking him a dumb question or telling him they'd watched him for 30 years, so

could he please sign this piece of In 1937, 12-year-old Johnny Carson came across "Hoffmann's Book of Magic." He sent away for a mail-order kit and drove his family nuts by asking them to pick a card, any card.

At 14, he made his performing debut as The Great Carsoni, in a costume sewed by Ruth Carson. He was in showbiz



Fan Lindsay Neumann, 23, from Burbank, Calif., brings flowers Sunday to the dedication sculpture at the Johnny Carson Park in Burbank, Calif., across from the NBC studios where "The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson" was taped, Johnny Carson died Sunday: he was 79.

He joined the Navy out of high school in 1943, and after his dis charge got his diploma in 1949

from the University of Nebraska. Meantime, he worked in local radio and did his senior thesis on comedy writing.

He saw the rise of television, and vaulted from Omaha to KNXT in Los Angeles, where he did a short Sunday comedy show called "Carson's Cellar" that led Red Skelton to hire him as a writer

One night in August 1954, Skelton was injured in rehearsal, and Carson was so impressive as a quick fill-in that CBS offered him his own show. Starting in June 1955 "The Johnny Carson Show featured parodies of pop culture. interviews with wacky people and other notions "Tonight" fans

would recognize. After the show was canceled he went to New York and joined the Friars Club, the ultimate networking spot for celebrity comedians, which helped keep him visi-ble enough that in 1957 ABC-TV hired him to replace Edgar Bergen as host of "Who Do You

The original title - the racier "Do You Trust Your Wife?"

didn't last. His sidekick, McMahon, did, because whatever Johnny wanted, Ed thought was great. It was a principle under which they would work together for 35 lucrative years.

As host of the country's most popular daytime show. Carson was invited in the spring of 1958 to sit in as a guest host for Jack Paar on NBC's "Tonight" show.

Carson was everything Paar wasn't: calm. not excitable: deadpan, not weepy; suggestive, not overt. When Paar and NBC got the inevitable divorce in 1962, NBC came to Carson

There were reports into the '70s that Carson always needed money, and that his distrust for the world in general was fueled by a bitterness over those he felt had done his money wrong.

Meanwhile on the air he didn't seem to be creating anything radical. He would start with a mono logue, which over the years would blossom into perhaps the most underrated performance on television, then talk with guests while interspersing comedy bits and

This featured characters like "Carnac the Magnificent," a magician clearly rooted in Carson's affection for "pick a card"; the ob-noxious Aunt Blabby; the Mighty Carson Art Players; the knuck-le-dragging Floyd R. Turbo; Fa-ther Time. Even The Great Carsoni returned.

Soon the show developed a rep utation as a place to do and say things that had no forum in prime time. Guests with bizarre animals were welcome, as were eye-catch ers like Dolly Parton, and Tiny Tim's wedding in 1969.

While Carson was generally lib eral, fans rarely saw that, even in a pointed run of Watergate gags in 1972-73. However he did it, he made it all look so easy, and so profitable, that over the years an army of challengers marched on his late-night spot. From Dick Cavett and Les Crane to Bill Dana and Joan Rivers, he shrugged them all off.

Even after Carson retired he was still godfather of late-night

When he left, there was a battle over who would take his spot. Jay Leno eventually got it, with Dave Letterman going to CBS. Recently there were reports that Johnny had fed jokes to Dave.

To the end, the camera loved even the thought of Johnny.

### Johnny through the years

The Associated Press

Key events in the career of

Johnny Carson: 1925 — John William Carson born Oct. 23 in Corning, Iowa. He was raised in Nebras-

1943-1946 — Carson serves

in U.S. Navy. 1954 The "Tonight Show," with host Steve Allen, premieres on NBC.

1957 - Carson hosts game show "Who Do You Trust?" with Ed McMahon as side-

1962 — Carson is introduced by Groucho Marx on Oct. 1 as the new host of "The Tonight Show" after Jack Paar's successful five-year

stint - Tiny Tim marries Miss Vicki on "Tonight" on

Dec. 17, a huge ratings winner

1972 night" from Burbank. Calif

1977

night" wins the Emmys under Carson.

 Carson is inducted into Television Hall of Fame. 1991 - Carson's son, Richard "Ricky" Wolcott Carson.

dies in a June road accident. 1992 — Carson awarded the Presidential Medal of Free-

1992 — Carson hosts final "Tonight Show" in May before turning desk over to Jay Leno. Bette Midler and Robin Williams were his final guests, appearing on the next-to-last show. The final broadcast was done without guests. It reached

an audience of 50 million. 1999 - Carson has quadruple bypass surgery in March. 2005 — Carson dies of em-

physema Jan. 23 at his Malibu

## Rose Mary Woods, Nixon's loyal secretary, dies

By MARK WILLIAMS

The Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio - In 1973, Rose Mary Woods emerged from the relative obscurity of typing letters and juggling schedules. The devoted secretary of President Nixon was in the middle of the Watergate

Woods, who ignited a firestorm when she said she inadvertently erased part of a crucial Watergate tape that had an 181/2-minute gap, died Saturday at a nurs-ing home in Alliance, about 60 miles south of Cleveland. She was 87.

Funeral home owner Roger Ruzek said Sunday he did not know the cause of death. The gap in the tape

of a June 20, 1972, con versation between Richard Nixon and chief of staff H.R. Haldeman was critical to the question of what Nixon knew about the break-in at Democratic headquarters in the Watergate complex three days earlier and when he knew it



Woods, who moved to northeastern Ohio after leaving the disgraced president's staff in 1976, never talked much about her years with the only American president to resign the office.

But Nixon considered her a member of the family. He wrote in his memoirs that it was Woods he asked to inform first lady Pat Nixon and his daughters in 1974 that he had decided to resign on Aug. 9.

When the time came for the family to prirately say goodbye to Nixon before he climbed aboard the helicopter headed for Air Force One, Woods stood by with Pat Nixon, daughters Tricia and Julie, and Julie Nixon Eisenhower and Tricia Nixon Cox said in a statement Sunday that Woods will be remembered for her devotion to the country and their family.

their husbands.

Woods, the granddaughter of an Irish stowaway, was born in Sebring, 20 miles southwest of Youngstown, on Dec. 26,

1917, and was raised in a strict Roman olic family. Nixon defended his loyal employee

when fingers pointed at Woods, who had spent weeks transcribing subpoenaed White House tapes. "I know I did not do it," Nixon said. "And I completely believe Rose when she says that she did not do it.

### IN THE WORLD

## U.N. officials gather to recall liberation of Nazi death camps

44 Time will

not diminish

the meaning of

their sacrifice.

It is important

to remember

the lessons of

history so

it will not be

BY WILLIAM J. KOLE The Associated Press

VIENNA. Austria - To the solemn strains of a choir, U.N. officials gathered in Vienna on Monday to kick off a week of events worldwide marking the 60th anni-

versary of the liberation of Nazi death camps.

Evoking images of the piles of human hair, eveglasses and empty suitcases at Aus chwitz, diplomats urged the international community to ensure the horrors of the Holocaust are never re peated.

Patrick mur, France's representative organiza tions based in the Austrian capital, reminded about 200 officials and employees who gathered in the ro-

tunda of the U.N. complex overlooking the Danube River that the United Nations was founded "as the world was awakening to the full horror of the camps.

Villemur urged nations to keep pulling together to ensure "there is never a repetition of these nightmares

The Vienna gathering came ahead of a much-larger commem oration later Monday at U.N. headquarters in New York, where Secretary-General Kofi Annan and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Elie Wiesel, a Holocaust survivor, were to address the General Assembly.

Grigory Berdennikov, Russia's permanent representative to the U.N. agencies in Vienna, recalled how Soviet troops liberated Auschwitz 60 years ago this Thursday. The Nazis' slaughter of 6 million Jews, he said, "will remain in the world's memory as a horrific

"Time will not diminish the meaning of their sacrifice," he said. "It is impor-

> tory so it will not be repeated." Peter Redmond Jenkins, Britain's chief envoy in Vienna, described how he and his family visited Austria's notorious Mauthausen labor camp last sum-mer so he could teach his young children about

"one of the dark-

tant to remember

the lessons of his-

repeated. est stains on Eu-Grigory Berdennikov rone's history. Russia's representative Only by workto U.N. agencies

the world hope to "stamp out genocide wherever it may occur." Jenkins said.

"Without constant vigilance, (death camps) could again be part of our future," U.S. diplomat David Noble warned

"Let us ensure that Auschwitz and the other camps will remain a byword of history for the path humanity refuses to take.

In a brief but emotional address, Israeli diplomat Israel Michaeli said the Jewish state forever will bear the scars of the Holocaust, which he described as "the culmination of 1.500 years of anti-Semitism and hatred.

"Every generation must be on its guard to ensure such evil never happens again," he said



Russian President Vladimir Putin, right, and Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko seen during a meeting in the Kremlin in Moscow on Monday. Yushchenko's visit aimed to smooth relations with the Kremlin.

## **New Ukraine president visits** Russia on first foreign trip

BY MARA D. BELLABY The Associated Press

MOSCOW - A day after taking office as Ukraine's president, Viktor Yushchenko arrived in Russia Monday to smooth relations with the Kremlin, which feared he would take his country out of Moscow's sphere of influence. But the reformist leader also named a fiery ally, whom Russia has been trying to arrest, as prime minis-

Yushchenko's visit to Moscow is a delicate balancing act to move closer to the West while not upsetting relations with his powerful neighbor - while for Russian President Vladimir Putin, the meeting could help undo the damage of his unsuccessful foray into Ukrainian politics

As the two leaders sat down for

talks in the Kremlin Vushchen. ko's office announced he had Yulia Tymoshenko Ukraine's new prime minister.

Russian prosecutors in September issued an international arrest warrant for Tymoshenko, a fiery orator and a key driving force behind massive opposition protests that paved the way for Yushchenko's victory in a repeat election last month.

Tymoshenko was accused of bribing Russian defense officials, and Moscow said she was put on the wanted list because she failed to turn up for questioning in Moscow Tymoshenko claimed she hadn't received any summons, and said the charges against here were politically motivated.

During the Kremlin meeting, Vushchenko told Putin that "Russia is our eternal strategic part-

was not an easy campaign, Yushchenko said of the presidential race in which Putin openly backed his rival, then prime minister Viktor Yanukovych.

While Yushchenko appeared reserved and at times nervous. Putin smiled and warmly received the new Ukrainian leader.

"We are very happy that this difficult political period in Ukraine has passed, and that a government is in place ... and we expect that our relations will con-tinue to develop," Putin said.

Russia views Ukraine as a key part of its historic sphere of influence, a major transit route for its oil and gas exports and a buffer between the expanding European Union and NATO. Moscow is nervous about Yushchenko's plans to quickly integrate the 48-million nation into Western structures.

## Iran says it will open production plant to process unranium ore concentrate

BY ALI AKBAR DAREINI The Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran - Iran will inaugurate a uranium ore concentrate production plant near the southern port city of Bandar Abbas within a year, Iran's nucle-

ar chief said.

Gholamreza Aghazadeh was quoted by state-run radio on Sunday as saying the Bandar Abbas Yellowcake Production Plant would open during the next Iranian calendar year, which begins March 21

The nuclear facility will process ore extracted from uranium mine into uranium ore concentrate, known as yellowcake. The processing is part of the early stages before actual enrichment of uranium. The uranium ore concentrate

can then be processed into uranium heyaflouride which later can be turned into a gas used as feedstock for enriching uranium. Uranium enriched to low

grades is used for fuel in nuclear reactors, but further enrichment makes it suitable for atomic hombs

Under an agreement reached with France, Germany and Britain, which negotiated on behalf of the European Union, Iran will continue suspension of its enrichment activities during negotiations with the Europeans about EU economic, political and technological aid. Iran has said it will decide within three months whether to continue suspension.

Israel will follow the U.S. lead in dealing with Iran's nuclear aspirations, Vice Premier Shimon Peres said Monday, but did not rule out military action if diplomatic and economic pressure fail to stop Tehran from developing nuclear weapons.

Meanwhile in London, the British government on Monday insisted diplomacy was the best way to solve the standoff over Iran's nuclear program, and rejected talk of tension with the United States.

## Palestinian militants tell Abbas they will halt attacks

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip Militant groups have agreed to suspend attacks as they near a formal truce deal with Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas and await Israel's response, a senior Palestinian official said Mon-

The militants' promise came after Israeli leaders said Sunday that Israel is ready to hold its fire if calm prevails, moving the two sides closer to ending four years of bloody conflict. Israeli President Moshe Kat-

say, who holds a largely ceremonial post, called Abbas on Monday, Katsav's office said. The two leaders talked about the importance of working together for peace, a statement said.

U.S. envoy William Burns, a senior State Department official, is to arrive in the region later this week for talks with Israeli and Palestinian leaders on the emerging cease-fire deal. Abbas is seeking Israeli guarantees that it will halt military operations, including arrest raids and targeted killings of mili-

Israel, in the past, has refused to grant amnesty to militants, but appeared to be softening its position. Asaf Shariv, an adviser to Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, said Israel would not make public declarations. "It will be a de facto cease-fire," he said

"If there is quiet, we will re spond with quiet.

## At least five killed in Austrian avalanches

By WILLIAM J. KOLE The Associated Press

VIENNA Austria - Skiers snowboarders and mountain rescue personnel call them "The White Death" — killer avalanches several football fields wide that can exceed 100 miles per hour and sweep away everything in their path

Weekend snow slides killed at least five people and seriously in-iured about 10 others who strayed off-trail in Austria's Alps in search of adventure despite warnings that conditions were rine for disaster

Officials had raised Austria's five-step avalanche alert to level four in recent days after a combination of heavy snowfalls, strong winds and subsequent mild temperatures made snow cover unsta-

ble and prone to breaking away. Austrian authorities recently launched a new service that delivers up-to-the-minute avalanche warnings via cell phone SMS text messages. But frustrated emergency workers say technology is useless to those who ignore conventional warnings and take unwarranted risks just to descend mountains aton virgin snow

"If they lack knowledge and the necessary background informa-tion, then it's just carelessness pure and simple," Roland Mattle, an alpine gendarme helping airlift victims to safety, told Austrian television Sunday.

Rescue workers on Monday resumed their search for the body of a 31-year-old American snowboarder missing and presumed dead in an avalanche that killed three Canadians, ages 40, 54 and 57, and seriously injured another a day earlier in the western province of Tyrol. The victims' names and hometowns were not released

The missing American was one of four U.S. citizens in their 30s; the three others managed to claw their way out of chest-deep snow

The Canadians were in a group of four — two married couples on a ski holiday at the popular resort of St. Anton

The avalanche was estimated to have spanned the length of three football fields laid end to end, and struck at an elevation of about 7,550 feet in an off-trail area popular with thrill-seekers looking for deep, untouched powder.



Indonesian men look out at the rubble of destroyed buildings Monday as they take a break from clean-up work in Banda Aceh. Indonesia. A U.N. official said Monday that tens of thousands of survivors in Aceh province have left relief camps in recent days, moving in with relatives and beginning to rebuild their

## **U.N.: Thousands of survivors** leaving relief camps in Aceh

BY MICHAEL CASEY The Associated Press

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia -Tsunami survivors in Indonesia's shattered Aceh province have left relief camps by the tens of thousands in recent days to move in with relatives, a U.N. official said Monday, as the government and separatist rebels tried to turn the

disaster into a chance for peace. Elsewhere in Indonesia, a pow erful earthquake sent thousands of people scrambling for higher ground, fearful it would trigger a tsunami like the one that killed at least 160,000 in the Indian Ocean region last month, most in Aceh Officials said there was no danger of tsunamis

U.N. relief effort in Aceh, said the number of relief camps has dropped by about 75 percent in the past week, from 385 to less than 100. The number of people in any one camp ranges from a

few hundred to about 2,000. The "dramatic decrease" is good news because relief settlements can make survivors too dependent on outside help, keeping

nem from rebuilding their lives, Boutroue said. He said most of those leaving were moving in with relatives, though a few were returning to their villages along Aceh's devastated west coast.

The government is building temporary housing for 100,000 survivors, along with mosques, schools homes could be ready next week, enabling more survivors to move out of their tents

Boutroue also said a survey found that 12.7 percent of tsuna-mi survivors under 5 were malnourished, slightly higher than the national average of about 9 percent. Part of the reason was their diet lacked variety, he said.

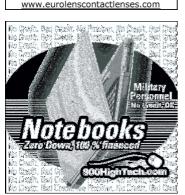
He said many survivors re-ceived little more than rice and biscuits in the first weeks after the disaster. Now fish, salt and sugar are available, he said.

Boutroue praised the role of the Indonesia military in relief efforts but suggested that the opera-tions should eventually be handed over to a civilian authorities.

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### Whooping cough kills 25 in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan - U.N. and Afghan medics were airlifted to a remote province in central Afghanistan to vaccinate children against whooping cough after 25 youngsters died of the infectious disease, officials said Monday.

The U.S. military said the 10 medics were flown into Daykundi province Sunday on a coalition helicopter with a small quick-reaction force to provide security. They were equipped with antibiotics for 2,000 people and vaccinations for 2,500 people. Mohammed Sarwar Danish, who is minister for justice and a former

governor of Daykundi, said that 25 children had died of whooping cough in Ghizab district. It wasn't clear when the children died.

## ents and Sensibility Money tip of the day

## Observe your desk

A worker survey suggests the state of your workspace might offer some insight into your personality, based on your income. gender and educational level.

The more you earn, the messier you might be, as only 11 percent of people making more than \$75,000 annually described themselves as "neat freaks," but 66 percent of those earning less than \$35,000 claimed that description

Also, college graduates said

they're messier: Sixteen percent claimed to be tidy desk workers. while nearly a third of high school graduates (29 percent) said they're neat-desk folks.

Older workers were messier, too. Slightly more than a third, 36 percent, claimed a clean desk, while 60 percent of workers 18-24 years old said they keep their spaces organized.

The results are from a teleshone survey of 2,039 adults in May conducted for staffing firm Ajilon Office, part of global staffing firm Adecco Group

## STARS STRIPES | LETTERS TO THE EDITOR/OPINION

THOMAS BIERMANN, General Manager, Europe LT. COL. CYRIL I. SOCHA Commander

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### Gonzales not right fit for GIs

As retired professional military leaders of the U.S. armed forces, we are deeply concerned about the nomination of Alberto R. Gonzales to be attorney general. We feel that his views concerning the role of the Geneva Conventions in U.S. detention and interrogation policy and practice have put soldiers in harm's way.

During his tenure as White House counsel, Gonzales appears to have played a significant role in shaping U.S. detention and interrogation operations in Afghanistan; Iraq: Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and elsewhere.

Today, it is clear that these operations

■ Fostered greater animosity toward

the United States ■ Undermined our intelligence-gather-

ing efforts; and ■ Added to the risks facing our troops serving around the world.

Before Gonzales assumes the position of attorney general, it is critical to understand whether he intends to adhere to the positions he adopted as White House counsel or chart a revised course more consistent with fulfilling our nation's complex security interests - and maintaining a mili-

tary that operates within the rule of law. Among his past actions that concern us most. Gonzales wrote to the president on Jan. 25, 2002, advising him that the Geneva Conventions did not apply to the con flict then under way in Afghanistan. The reasoning Gonzales advanced in this memo was rejected by many military leaders at the time, including Secretary of State Colin Powell, who argued that aban doning the Geneva Conventions would put our soldiers at greater risk and would "reverse over a century of U.S. policy and practice in supporting the Geneva Conven-

Perhaps most troubling of all, the White House decision to depart from the Geneva Conventions in Afghanistan went hand in hand with the decision to relax the definition of torture and to alter interrogation doctrine accordingly. These changes in doctrine have led to uncertainty and confu-

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sion in the field, contributing to the abuses

of detainees at Abu Ghraib [prison in Iraq] and elsewhere, and undermining the mission and morale of our troops.

The full extent of Gonzales' role in endorsing or implementing the interrogation practices the world has now seen remains unclear A series of memos prepared at his direction in 2002 recommended official authorization of harsh interrogation methods, including waterboarding, feigned suffocation and sleep deprivation.

The United States' commitment to the Geneva Conventions — the laws of war – flows not only from field experience, but also from the moral principles on which this country was founded, and by which we all continue to be guided. We urge senators to take into account

the effects of Gonzales' advice on U.S. detention and interrogation policy and prac-

#### Marine Brig, Gen, David M. Brahms (retired)

Carlshad, Calif.

The letter also was signed by Army Brig. Gen. James Cullen (retired), Army Brig. Gen. Evelyn P. Foote (retired), Army Lt. Gen. Robert Gard (retired) Navy Vice Adm. Lee F. Gunn (retired),

Navy Rear Adm. Don Guter (retired), Marine Gen. Joseph Hoar (retired), Navy Rear Adm. John D. Hutson (retired), Army Lt. Gen. Claudia Kennedy (retired). Air Force Gen. Merrill McPeak (retired), Army Maj. Gen. Melvyn Montano (retired), Army Gen, John Shalikashvili (retired)

### Women wouldn't slack off

I wish I was surprised by "Women don't belong in infantry" (Dec. 15), but frankly I'm not.

The writer said he would leave his personal opinions aside, then expressed them in a very narrow-minded manner. I agree that women who want to join the infantry should meet the same physical training re quirements. However, the reason weight and body fat regulations are different is because women are naturally supposed to carry more body fat than males. Feel free to ask your medic if you're skeptical.

As for the claims that women would slack off, any woman tough enough to pass the male PT standards and infantry training is probably at least as motivated as the males. While in Iraq I have seen women carry heavier loads to prove themselves more than I've seen them loafing, and several of the females in my unit carry the heavier M249 light machine gun while the only M4 assault rifle is carried by the tallest man in our unit. Decency requires that opposite genders

have separate places to dress and shower when available. This is not preferential treatment but common sense. Remember in Kuwait where the whole unit shared one tent? The men kept to one side, the women to the other, and people changed their underclothes in the showers. To prevent accidental pregnancies, in-

fantry females could be required to be on birth control in the field. At other times, do remember that men can have children while in the military and women should be able to, as well.

The bottom line is, soldiers who can pass the same training should have the same opportunities, regardless of gender. Snc Khai Krumbhaar

Baghdad

## Americans swallow more expensive pills

The Orlando (Fla.) Sentinel

ast week, 10 pharmaceutical com-

panies announced that uninsured Americans of modest means could apply for a discount card. They'll have to pay only \$3 for a \$4 pill. That sounds pretty good until you consider that France, Japan and others will

still pay only \$1. The discount card won't change the fact that Americans subsidize the world's drug costs by footing the bill for research.

This would be less outrageous if the product in question wasn't, in many cases, necessary to sustain life.

1211

Neither President Bush nor Republican leaders in the House and Senate appear to have any problem with the disparity. But Iowa Republican Charles Grassley

does. He and other senators intend to re vive this issue They support setting up a safe system to let consumers order U.S.-approved drugs

from certain countries where they cost This would not automatically equalize

prices, but would help bring them in line. If that doesn't work, they could try this: A law that bars drug companies from sell-

BOWING TO NETWORK PRESSURE,

ing their products in this country if they charge less in comparable countries. No company would willingly walk away

from the lucrative U.S. market, so it would negotiate higher prices with governments ewhere.

Because Bush and other drug-industry supporters won re-election, pharmaceutiexecutives may think the outcry over unfair international pricing will fade away

And that the discount card will shore up their sagging image.
But they'd better not count on it. Ameri-

cans don't want to be gouged so that others get a price break.

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

### **Doonesbury Flashbacks**

FOR MOREON IRAC







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### OPINION

## Sunnis don't want minority rule blown up

BY ROBERT ZELNICK

very time I hear advocates for Iraq's Sunni Muslims urge postponement of the Jan. 30 vote, Iracall legendary lawyer Louis Nizer's story about dissenting members of a corporate board of directors who, after tossing
their colleagues out the window, promptly
moved to adjourn for the absence of a quo-

The Sunnis have reason to be unhappy. For nearly a century under the assortment of kings and cutthroats that ran Baghdad they dominated Iraq. The Shiites in the South outnumbered them nearly 3 to 1 and the Kurds in the north were their numerical equal. But Sunnis dominated the government, the military, the police, higher education, business and the Baath political party Moreover, when Saddam Hussein chased the starving and frozen Kurds to the mountains of Turkey and turned his southern guns on the Shiites, killing 300,000 of them the Sunnis were not at risk. In a democratic society, or even one with rough representa-tive government, their influence would more reflect their numbers.

Small wonder that military and political insurgents, not to mention the terrorists who roll car bombs into crowded markets, massacre police trainees and slit the throats of aid dispensers, have come mainly from the ranks of Sunnis about to see political power redistributed. Small wonder their four provinces are the least secure among Iraq's eighteen.

The arguments for delaying the vote are not entirely frivolous.

Mainstream Sumii political and religious leaders say they need time for things to setleaders say they need time for things to settle down. Their voices are augmented by a sprinkling of Americans who see the risk of greater violence, even civil war, if the Sumnis are dealt substantially out of the game. Hold off the detections, they urge. Revise they voting formula to ensure representation from the Sunni geographic regions. Then hold a vote.

But postponement carries even greater risks. One is the awful precedent of rewarding terrorism. Scuttle an election because of insurgent treachery and the likely result would be more, not less treachery. This is a volatile area where limiting the plebiscite to those of saintly disposition would be futile. But as we have seen recently in the case of the Palestinians, a minimal commitment to shun violence is a fair price to pay for participation in the political process. One must choose between the ballot and the gum.

An even greater danger would be delivering a political insult of devastating proportion to Iraq's Shiites. If Sunni violence can delay majority rule, then Shiites might conclude that their own violence can restore it. And a Shiite-Sunni clash would provide all kinds of opportunities for mischief to Iran, the neighboring Shiite power.

Far better to hold the scheduled elections



for the 275-member legislature charged with drafting a constitution, and reach out to the Sunnis through that body. Some might be brought immediately into government. The constitution can be tailored to protect regional as well as religious representational interests, just as women are guaranteed 20 percent of the seats in the new legislature.

Dissenters ask whether an election where some can't vote can pass the test of international legitimacy. Which brings us back to Nizer and his quorum call.

Robert Zelnick is a research fellow at the Hoover Institution, a Stanford, Calif.-based think tank, and chairman of the Department of Journalism at Boston University.

## Nixed bombing of Auschwitz could have saved lives

BY STEPHEN J. SOLARZ AND RAFAEL MEDOFF

PHILADELPHIA

orld leaders will gather at Austrickie of the former Nazi death camp, tomorrow to commerce to the Allies' liberation of the camp.
The event will help focus needed attentions and the second of the camp.

tion on the horrors of genocide, then and now. But it will be haunted by the knowledge that, in 1944, Allied bomber pilots had Auschwitz within their gun sights, yet were never given the order to attack.

George McGovern was one of those pilots. McGovern, the former U.S. senator from South Dakota and 1972 Democratic presidential nominee, recently spoke on camera for the first time about his experiences as one of the American pilots who flew over Auschwitz.

In a meeting with interviewers from Israel Television and the David S. Wyman Institute for Holocaust Studies, McGovern recalled his days as the pilot of a B-24 Liberator in the 455th Bomb Group, targeting German synthetic oil plants in occupied Poland — many of them within a few miles of the Auschwitz gas chambers.

After the Allies gained control of Foggia Air Base in Italy in December 1943, Auschwitz was for the first time within striking distance of Allied planes.

In June 1944, U.S. diplomats and Jewish leaders in Switzerland received a detailed report about Auschwitz, prepared by two escapees. They described the mass-murder facilities, and drew diagrams showing where the gas chambers and crematoria were located.

As a result, Jewish organizations repeat-

a resurt, Jewish organizations repeatedly asked the Roosevelt administration to order the bombing of Auschwitz and the railroad lines leading to the camp.

The War Department rejected the proposals as "impracticable," claiming such raids would require "considerable diversion" of planes needed for the war effort. U.S. officials claimed to have conducted a "study" that found that bombing Auschwitz was not militarily feasible. But no evidence of the alleged study has ever been found.

Ironically, military resources were diverted for various other nomilitary reasons. Secretary of War Henry Stimes blocked the Air Force's plan to Stime blocked the Air Force's plan to Stime Lagranese city of Kyoto, because of the city's artistic treasures, and his deputy, John McCloy — who rebuffed many of the requests to bomb Auschwitz — diverted U.S. bombers from striking the Germacity of Rothenburg because of its famous city of Rothenburg because of its famous creat diverted U.S. troops to George Paties.

The administration's "diversion" argument was just "a rationalization," McGovern said in the interview. How much of a "diversion" would it have been, when he and other U.S bomber-pilots already were flying over the area? In the summer and

fall of 1944, the Allies repeatedly bombed the oil refineries near Auschwitz — at a time when hundreds of Jews were being gassed daily in the camp.

On Dec. 26, for instance, McGovern's squadron dropped 50 tons of bombs on oil facilities in Monowitz, an industrial section of Auschwitz, located less than five miles from the site where 1.6 million people were murdered from 1942 to 1944.

"There is no question we should have attempted... to go after Auschwitz," McGovern said. "There was a pretty good chance we could have blasted those rail lines off the face of the earth, which would have interrupted the flow of people to those death chambers, and we had a pretty good chance of knocking out those gas ovens." Even if there was a danger of accidental-

ly harming some of the prisoners, "it was certainly worth the effort, despite all the risks," he noted, because the prisoners were already "doomed to death" and an Alied bombing attack might have slowed down the mass-murder process and saved many more lives.

"Franklin Roosevelt was a great man and he was my political hero," McGovern said. "But I think he made two great mistakes in World War II.

"One was the internment of Japaness-Americans," he said, and the other was the decision "not to go after Auschwitz. ... God forgive us for that tragic miscalculation."

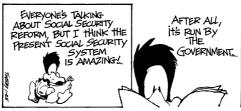
One hopes the world leaders meeting at the Auschwitz site this week will reflect not only upon the savagery of the Nazis, but also on the role of bystanders, then and now.

As McGovern emphasized, the Auschwitz experience should produce "a determination that never again will we fail to exercise the full capacity of our strength in that direction... we should have gone all out against Auschwitz, and we must never again permit genocide."

Stephen J. Solarz, a New York Democrat, served

Stephen J. Solarz, a New York Democrat, served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1975 to 1993. Rafael Medoff is director of The David S. Wyman Institute for Holocaust Studies, which focuses on issues related to America's response to the Holocaust.

### Mallard Fillmore



BY BRUCE TINSLEY





## A hard-won fortress On the QT

## French citadel survived lengthy siege

Stars and Stripes

on of a Bitche. If he had known the famous American phrase, Col. Kohlermann might have used it for sure

Kohlermann, whose first name is unknown and apparently lost to history, was commander of Bavarian troops surrounding the French town of Bitche during the Franco-Prussian war of 1870-71. He would have used the famous phrase to curse Louis Casimir Teyssier, stubborn commandant of La Citadelle, the mighty fortress overlooking Bitche in northeastern Lorraine.

Teyssier didn't give up, he didn't surrender his hard-hit fortress on top of a huge rock to the German troops. Under siege between August 1870 and March 1871, Bitche and its stronghold withstood bombardments and attacks by 20,000 Bavarian troops for eight months

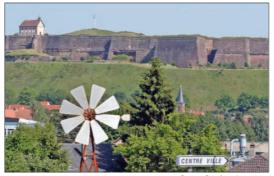
While the walls and buildings atop the rock were transformed into rubble by Bavarian artillery, life went on in the tunnels and casemates inside the rock. Equipped with strongholds and shelters, kitchen and stables. hospital and mess halls, served with water from a well 240 feet deep into the rock, Teyssier and his garrison withstood all attacks. They even held out for three weeks in March 1871. after Germany had defeated France and an armistice was signed. "I need to get the word from

Paris to surrender," Teyssier declared

On March 26, 1871, Teyssier handed over the keys of the fortress to Kohlermann and earned an honorable retreat with the survivors of his garri-

Today in Bitche, one can soak up the atmosphere of a fortress under siege. The Citadelle of Bitche is a well-organized muse um open to the public. With light and sound, music and slide shows, the old days of the Franco-Prussian war are brought to life. Along with the sounds of marching boots and the fanfare of attack, you almost smell the black powder and hear the screams of the wounded.

Earphones (English, French and German languages available) guide you through the fortress and through the centuries. Not only can visitors sample the famous siege of 1870-71,





ve: A model in the museum shows the location and d the fortress of Bitche, which is built on a massive rock. Below: A decorative pillow in the museum shows the crest of Bitche with two war medals.



but also the history of the Citadelle, from its creation under French architect Sébastien Le Prestre de Vauban in the 17th century until the end of World

A plaque on top of the fortress

honors the fallen and injured American soldiers of the 100th

Division of the Seventh Army that liberated Bitche on March 15, 1945. Another museum on ton of the fortress offers interesting relics of the

wars and a fantastic model of the Citadelle dominating the town of Bitche E-mail Peter Jaeger at:iaegerp@ mail.



A bust of Napoleon III, emporer of France, in the museum of the fortress. As commander in chief of the French troops in the 1870-71 Franco-Prussian war. he was captured by the Germa at Sedan, France, in 1871.





Bitche is in the northeastern part of the Lorraine region of France, close to the German border, 15 miles south of Zweibrücken

From Kaiserslautern/Ramstein take Autobahn 6 to autobahn kreuz Neunkirchen onto Autobahn 8, direction Zweibrücken. Leave the autobahn at Exit 33 toward Hornbach and follow Highway B-424 to the French border. B-424 becomes D35A in France, Follow signs to Bitche, just 13 miles away.

From Heidelberg, take Autohahn 5 direction Basel: switch at kreuz Walldorf to Autobahn 6 direction Mannheim At dreieck Hockenheim go onto Autobahn 61 direction Köln; switch to Autobahn 65 at kreuz Mutter stadt. Leave Autobahn 65 at Exit 15/ Landau Nord, Go onto Highway B-10 direction Annweiler/Pirmasens. At Pirmasens switch onto Autobahn 8. Leave the autobahn at Exit 33 onto Highway B-424, direction Hornbach and Bitche. If there are controls at the German-French border, you will need a passport.



### Times

La Citadelle is open from March 15 to Nov. 15 every day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (July and August until 6 p.m.) The visit takes 1 to 2 hours



### Costs

Admission (including headphones) is 6 euros (7 euros from May 1 until Sept. 30) and 5 euros for children and students (6 euros from May-September)



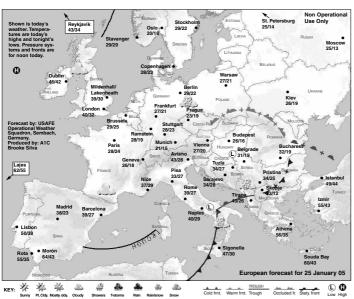
### Food

There is a snack bar with outdoor café on top of the fortress next to the museum. Bitche has a number of restaurants, cafés and two supermarkets to buy food and drinks for a picnic.



For info about La Citadelle, call the tourist office (Mon. through Sat., 9 a.m.-noon and 1:30-5.30 p.m.) at Bitche, located at the parking lot of the fortress. Phone: (+33) (0) 387061616; fax: (+33) (0) 387061617; e-mail: Office.tourisme.bitche@ wanadoo fr

- PETER JAEGER



### EUROPEAN FORECAST

Benelux: Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 20s. Wednesday lows in the 20s.

Britain, Ireland: Mostly cloudy with isolated rain and snowshowers. Highs in the upper 30s to upper 40s. Wednesday lows in the lower 30s to

lower 40s.

Croatia and Bosnia: Mostly cloudy with snowshowers. Highs in the mid 30s. Wednesday lows in the upper

France: Mostly cloudy with isolated snowshowers in the morning. Highs in the upper 20s to upper 30s. Wednesday lows in the upper teens to upper 20s.

Northern Germany: Mostly cloudy with snowshowers. Highs in the upper 20s. Wednesday lows in the lower 20s.

Southern Germany: Cloudy with snowshowers. Highs in the 20s. Wednesday lows in the teens.

Hungary: Cloudy with snowshowers. Highs in the upper 20s. Wednesday lows in the upper teens.

Northern Italy: Mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 30s to lower 40s. Wednesday lows in the upper 20s.

Southern Italy: Cloudy with rain and snow mix. Highs in the upper 30s to mid 40s. Wednesday lows in the upper 20s to lower 30s.

Kosovo: Cloudy with snowshowers. Highs in the lower 30s. Wednesday lows in the mid 20s.

Norway: Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower to upper 20s. Wednesday lows in the upper teens to upper 20s.

Portugal, Spain: Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 50s to lower 60s, and upper 30s in the north. Wednesday lows in the upper 30s to lower 40s, and upper 20s in the north.

Turkey: Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 40s to mid 50s. Wednesday lows in the lower 40s.

For current weather watches, warnings, and 5-day forecasts go to the USAFE Operational Weather Squadron home page at:

### https://ows.sembach.af.mil http://ows.public.sembach.af.mil

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### THE UNITED STATES TODAY

**MIDEAST** 

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Scheduled to ETS or PCS?

Check our Relocation Guide every Saturday to find Realtors at your new station.



PAGE 18 · STARS AND S

### Wrongful death

MA SPRINGFIELD
The family of an
11-year-old West Springfield boy who fell to his
death while climbing a factory smokestack more than
two years ago was awarded
\$6.5 million by a Superior Court Judge in a
wrongful death lawsuit.

Paul H. Rothschild, a Springfield lawyer representing the family of Andrew J. Mann, said that the judgment was against the trustees of the West Springfield Trade Center Condominium Trust, CGS Enterprises. The trade center controls the property where the smokestack was located on West-

### Sewage spill in paradise

ern Avenue

PEARL CITY — About 2.3 million gallons of sewage spilled from the Pearl City wastewater pumping station, damaging several homes when sewage backed up inside them.

Crews didn't manage to stop the flow until more than six hours after the spill began. They continued to clean up the mess the next day

Athan Adachi, chief of the city's wastewater division, said improvements were being made at the pump station when a contractor opened a pressurized sewage pipe, causing the spill.

"The pipe broke loose and the sewage started coming out," Adachi said. "They couldn't shut it down and the whole area started to flood with sewage."

The pipe was opened because of a miscommunication between the contractor and a worker at the plant, he said.

### Rape charges dropped

LEESVILLE — A man won't face trial on charges he raped three residents of a short-term home for the mentally handicapped because his accusers were found incompetent to testify against him.

Prosecutors dropped six aggravated rape charges against Louis Glenn Dowden, who was a resident training specialist at the Leesville Developmental Center.

Prosecutors said the case rested largely on the victims' testimony and the judge ruled them incompetent to testify following a two-day hearing. The victims all have IQs under 70.

Dowden was arrested in March 2002 after state officials began investigating the rape allegations. He was also put on administrative leave by the state.

### Awarded for generosity

LIMA — Eight high school students who gave their senior class trip money to a teacher with cancer will be able to travel after all, thanks to donations from people who were touched by the students' generosity.

The eight graduating seniors at Lima High School in southwest Montana gave \$5,000 in December to Karla McGraw, a teacher and volleyball coach diagnosed with advanced breast cancer, to help her with medical expenses.

When Lima resident Ben Yarbrough heard about the stu-

## AMERICAN ROUNDUP

dents' donation, he set up a fund that has since grown to more than \$8,300, thanks to donations from as far away as Florida and New York City

### Six injured in fire

NY NEW YORK — An early morning fire in the middle of blizzard conditions left six people with minor injuries in Staten Island.

Firefighters responded to the blaze at about 2:30 a.m. at a six-story apartment on Park Hill Avenue, said Firefighter Paul Iannizzotto, a fire department spokes-

About 35 units and 150 firefighters were called to the fire.

The fire started on the first floor and extended through the building. Firefighters were able to put the flames out after about an hour. The cause of the fire has not been determined yet.

Six residents of the apartment suffered minor injuries. Three of them were taken to Staten Island University Hospital North for treat-

### Misconduct alleged

CHICAGO — A judge accused a federal prosecutor of misconduct for turning grand jury materials over to a plaintiff's lawyer in a hospital-fraud case, sparking a dispute that has led to



Winter wonderland
Hugo Day, 3, gets taken for a ride
by Tessa Muehllehner during the
snowy weather in Washington.

an investigation of several lawyers in the U.S. attorney's office, court records show.

In response, U.S. Attorney Patrick J. Fitzgerald asked a federal appeals court to force U.S. District Judge James F. Holderman to disqualify himself from making rulings during the investigation.

The monthslong feud between Holderman and federal prosecutors was made public when hundreds of pages of court papers were unsealed.

### Defending polygamy

SALT LAKE CITY — A Republican state lawmaker countered a Senate colleague's dispersal of an anti-polygamy book by passing out materials to fellow legislators defending the practice as natural and not necessarily harmful.

State Sen. Carlene Walker said

she was offended by the book, "God's Brothel," that Democratic Senate Minority Whip Ron Allen distributed to legislators. Walker said she has known po-

distributed to legislators.

Walker said she has known polygamists who are "fine, honest, educated, wonderful people."

### Welfare workers fired

TAMPA — Two child welfare workers were fired and a third was demoted after a 4-month-old child under their supervision was beaten to death, authorities said.

Phoenix Jordan Parrish died in Dothan, Ala., after his mother banged his head against a bed to stop him from crying, authorities said

Tierra Capri Gobble, 21, had been ordered by a court to stay away from the child.

Hillsborough Kids Inc., a private agency that handles foster care and adoption for the state of Florida, said the three employees failed to monitor the child after he was taken out of state by his great-uncle, Edgar Parrish. The workers were not identified.

### Bronze swords stolen

PA HARRISBURG — The National Park Service is looking for two bronze swords stolen from monuments at Gettysburg National Military Park, officials said.

tional Military Park, officials said.

The first sword was reported missing Sept. 15 from the bronze Alexander Hays sculpture and the latest was believed to have been taken recently from the 8th Pennsylvania Cavalry stone monument, the service said.

Both were pried or broken off the monuments, Park Service spokeswoman Katie Lawhon said.

### Sheriff's deputy indicted

TAMPA—A sheriff's deputy was indicted on charges that he used a police computer to track a friend's former lover and her new boyfriend before attacks were carried out against the cou-

Deputy Charles Maye allegedly used his access to the National Crime Information Center's database to help his friend Leruy Collins track down James McLemore, the new boyfriend of Collins's ex-giriffrend. Prosecutors say he also used the computer to find the girlfriend's address.



Slippery perch

A bald eagle carefully walks on an iced-over pipe on a circle irrigation



Come Sail away With spinnaker billowing, Farr 40-class boats sail on a downwind tack during the Key West 2005 regatta off Key West. Fla.



Snowball fight

Midshipmen throw snowballs while playing in the snow in downtown Annapolis, Md.



Stupid human tricks

Jeff Snodgrass shows how he can use suction to stick five soda cans to his face during an audition for The Late Show's Stupid Human Tricks held at the Onniplex in Oklahoma City.



Soakin' up some sun As seen from a helicopter, a man floats in a condominium complex pool in off Siesta Key Public Beach in Sarasota, Fla.



Tasty lesson Children eat ice cream in Hattiesburg, Miss., as part of a lesson on the letter "1" given at the Early Encounters preschool. From left, Will Bustin, 4; Dillon Morgan, 4; Walker Matlich, 5; Austin Baker, 5; Caden Stowall, 5; and Payton Brewer, 5.

### Two die in plane crash

ABILENE — Two Dallas men died when their single-engine airplane clipped a power line and crashed near Brownwood

Paulose Mathai, 50, and Karl Robert Brinker, 28, were flying from Dallas and approaching Brownwood Regional Airport when the crash occurred about 7 a.m., according to the Department of Public Safety in Brownwood.

The fileth were in a beech 36 model, single-engine plane when the landing gear clipped a power line, a DPS spokeswoman said. The plane hit a group of standing trees, the left wing broke off and the aircraft burst into flames, The Abilene Reporter-News reported.

### Airport expansion

RESTON — A Reston-based developer who has fought the multibillion-dollar plan to extend Metrorail to Dulles International Airport has offered his own proposal to ease northern Virginia's transportation woes.

Under his plan, Chris Walker said his company would widen Interstate 66 and the Dulles Toll Road between Washington and the airport — a congested 27-mile route

Walker said he would pay for the project by charging a toll that would vary with the time of day on some of the lanes. Other lanes would be free, which means drivers willing to pay would save time by traveling in the restricted lanes with fewer cars.

The Virginia Department of Transportation is considering three similar proposals from private businesses for stretches of the Capital Beltway and Interstate 95.

### Taking on obesity

ME PORTLAND — Obesity will be one of the issues on the Legislature's agenda now that lawmakers have passed a tax relief bill

Lawmakers will consider bills to require chain restaurants to list calories on menus; have schools give parents confidential reports on their child's body fat; and stop teachers from using junk food to reward students.

With obesity on the rise in Maine, supporters of the bills say it's time to address poor nutrition and lack of physical activity.

Obesity has grown 20 percent over the last decade, with more than half of Maine adults overweight or obese and nearly 30 percent of high schoolers overweight or at risk of becoming so.

If current trends continue, obesity will overtake tobacco as the leading cause of preventable death, health experts say.

### **Airport inspections**

HONOLULU — The state Department of Transportation will use \$447,768 from the airport special fund to inspect airfields and to update pavement management systems plans for 14 airports throughout the state.

The federal government's share for the project is \$2.3 million, according to state officials, who said Gov. Linda Lingle had released the state money.

Data collected from the inspec-

tions will be used to formulate new short- and long-term plans to maintain and upgrade airfields, the governor's office said

The inspections are required every three years by the Federal Aviation Administration to determine the amount of federal funding for airfield pavement rehabilitation projects. officials said.

"This important preventative effort, which uses airport special funds and federal dollars, will help in our ongoing plan to improve the airport infrastructure on all islands," DOT Director Rod Haraga said.

### Missing hard drive

GREELEY — A computer hard drive missing from the University of Northern Colorado contained personal information about thousands of employees and their families, the university has said.

UNC officials said the missing

equipment includes the names, birth dates, Social Security and bank account numbers and other information about employees' beneficiaries as well as about 15,790 current and former workers.

The total could be more than

30,000 people, officials said.
University officials said they do
not know whether the drive was

onot know whether the drive was misplaced or stolen, but campus police have launched a criminal investigation.

### Four-alarm blaze

NH CANTERBURY — Firefighters from about a dozen communities worked in frigid temperatures to control a four-alarm fire triggered by a gasoline vapor explosion in a sod farm workshop.

The fire broke out at the Gold Star Farm around 2 p.m., and about 60 firefighters from as far away as Northwood were called to the scene. The fire was contained in about an hour, and it was declared under control just before 5 p.m.

Mutual Aid Fire Chief Richard Wright said the fire destroyed perhaps a quarter to a third of a sprawling storage building that contained equipment and chemicals, including pesticides.

"Basically, we probably saved three-quarters of the building," he said. "We were able to cut it off inside the building."

### Boy reunited with family

FL OCALA — An 11-year-old boy who had been taken from his school by a convicted child molester was reunited with his family while dozens of police searched for the kidnapping suspect in Georgia.

The boy was hugged by his mother as he emerged from a police car outside the Marion County sheriff's office.

His father, Ivert Kirkirt, said the boy was surprised by all the attention and looked good after the ordeal. "He said, 'Dad, stop crying,' " Kirkirt said.

Meanwhile, police continued earching for Frederick Fretz, 42, who was believed to be hiding in woods near where the boy was found in northwest Georgia, said Maj. Mike Powell of the police department in Emerson, Ga. Powell said there was no indication the boy had been molested.

Stories and photos from wire services

	AFRTS Television Schedule							
	Updated sports listings are available on the first Scoreboard page in the sports section or AFN's Web site at http://myafn.dodmedia.osd.mil/							
	T			TUESDAY, JANUARY 25				
	(AFN-FAMILY)	AFN-MOVIE  Movie "A Family of Strangers"	(AFN-EUROPE)	(AFN-KOREA)	(AFN-NEWS)	(AFN-SPORTS) NBA Basketball Teams to Be	(SPECTRUM) 30-Minute Meals	(AFN-PACIFIC)
9:00	Stanley Sagwa-Siamese Cat	(1993, Drama) Melissa Gilbert. A	Ur. Phil	Jeopardy! Headline News	Nightline Army Newswatch	Announced. (Taped)	Sweet Dreams	Jeopardy! Headline News
10:00	Arthur (EI)	woman awaiting surgery learns that she was adopted.	(9:46) Oprah Winfrey	ESPNews	Hardball With Chris Matthews		Best for Less	ESPNews
10:30	Reading Rainbow (EI)		(:35) Guiding Light	Advisory Block		1	Stripped	Pacific Report
11:00	Sagwa-Siamese Cat Stanley	(10:48) Movie *** "Conagher" (1991, Western)	(:17) General Hospital	Smallville "Legacy"	The O'Reilly Factor	NFL Live	E News The King of Queens	Smallville "Legacy"
12:00	Dora the Explorer	Sam Elliott. Louis L'Amour's tale	Headline News	Movie ★★★% "A Beautiful	FOX News	SportsCenter	That '70s Show	Movie *** "A Beautiful Mind" (2001) Russell Crowe.
12:30	The Wiggles "Play"	of a cowboy and a lonely widow.	Judge Judy	Mind" (2001) Russell Crowe, Ed Harris A brilliant mathemati-		[ ]	Girlfriends "Porn to Write"	Mind" (2001) Russell Crowe, Ed Harris, A brilliant mathemati-
13:00	Bob the Builder	Movie ** * "Agnes of God" (1985, Drama) Jane Fonda, A	Today The Oscar nominations; bartering advice.	cian battles schizophrenia.	Fox and Friends	Women's College Basketball Duke at North Carolina. (Taped)	Charmed "Pardon My Past"	cian battles schizophrenia.
13:30	Dragon Tales (EI) Blue's Clues (EI)	psychiatrist probes the birth	burtoning dovice.	(:15) Pacific Report	Fox and Friends	Danc at Horar Gardina. (rapes)	Ally McBeal "The New Day"	(:15) Pacific Report
14:30	Barney & Friends (EI)	and death of a nun's child.		(:45) The Tonight Show With	1		Any modelar the recti day	(:45) The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
15:00	Funniest Home Videos	(2:50) Movie * * "He Said, She Said" (1991) Kevin Bacon.	l Spy	Jay Leno	American Morning	SportsCenter	Any Day Now "Blue"	
15:30 16:00	Full House Pokémon	Conflict adds spice to an affair	Animaniacs All Grown Up	(:45) Late Show With David Letterman	CNN Live Today	NFL Total Access	Third Watch "Officer Involved"	(:45) Late Show With David Letterman
16:00	Yu-Gi-Oh! 'Freeze Play'	between rival columnists.	Teen Kids News (EI)	(:45) Headline News	CNIN LIVE IOUSY	NFL IDIAI ACCESS	Iniru watch Oncer involved	(:45) Headline News
17:00	Doug (EI)	The Entertainers	Jeopardy!	Headline News	1	SportsCenter	Law & Order "Collision"	Headline News
17:30	The Wild Thornberrys Hyena.		Headline News	The Late Late Show				The Late Late Show
18:00 18:30	The Fairly OddParents Rugrats	Behind the Scenes Entertainment Tonight	ESPNews Headline News	Dennis Miller	FOX News	College Football Hula Bowl. From Maui, Hawaii. (Taped)	The Simpsons Everybody Loves Raymond	Dennis Miller
19:00	The Proud Family	Movie *s "Down to Earth"	Smallville "Legacy"	Delilis Millel	DaySide With Linda Vester		Star Trek: Enterprise "Proving	Deninis annei
19:30	The Amanda Show	(2001 Comedy) Chris Bock		Countdown With Keith Olber-	1		Ground"	Countdown With Keith Olber-
20:00	Everwood "Episode 20"	Regina King, Chazz Palminteri.	Movie *** "A Beautiful Mind" (2001) Russell Crowe,	mann	FOX News	Tennis Australian Open Men's and Women's Quarterfi-	CSI: Crime Scene Investiga- tion "Forever"	mann
20:30	Sister, Sister (Part 2 of 2)	(:43) Movie ** "A Midsum- mer Night's Dream" (1999)	Ed Harris. A brilliant mathemati-	Entertainment Studios.com The Hot List	Studio B With Shepard Smith	nals. From Melbourne. Aus-	American Experience: A Bril-	Entertainment Studios.com The Hot List
21:00	Sister, Sister (Part 2 012)	Kevin Kline, Michelle Pfeiffer, A.	cian battles schizophrenia.	Headline News	Studio B With Shepard Smith	tralia. (Same-day Tape)	liant Madness: The Story	Headline News
22:00	The Cosby Show	mischievous fairy wreaks havoc between two sets of lovers.	(:15) Headline News	Good Morning America	Your World With Neil Cavuto		Friends	Good Morning America
22:30	Home Improvement		(:45) The Tonight Show With Jay Leno				Seinfeld "The Lip Reader"	
23:00	Touched by an Angel "My Brother's Keeper"	Movie ** * "Ali" (2001) Will Smith, Jamie Foxx.	Late Show-Letterman		Lester Holt Live	Around the Horn Pardon the Interruption	Daily Show-Jon Stewart Blind Date	-
23:30		,	Late Silow-Letterman	WEDNESDAY, JANUARY	26 2005	ratuon tile interruption	Dilliu Date	
00:00	Aaahh! Real Monsters	(11:00) Movie *** "Ali"	Late Show-Letterman	Play With Me Sesame	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night With Conan	Play With Me Sesame
00:30	Rocket Power	(2001) Will Smith, Jamie Foxx.	(:45) Headline News	Bear in the Big Blue House	NBC Nightly News		O'Brien	Bear in the Big Blue House
1:00	SpongeBob SquarePants Rugrats	(:15) Movie **s "Timecop" (1994) Jean-Claude Van	College Basketball Georgia at Florida. (Live)	Blue's Clues Wheel of Fortune	ABC World News Tonight CBS Evening News	College Basketball Illinois at Wisconsin. (Live)	Star Trek: Enterprise "Proving Ground"	Blue's Clues Wheel of Fortune
2:00	The Proud Family	Damme. A time-traveling police	i iona. (Eiro)	Dr. Phil	The NewsHour With Jim	madalar. (Elic)	CSI: Crime Scene Investiga-	Dr. Phil
2:30	The Amanda Show	officer tackles a corrupt senator.			Lehrer		tion "Forever"	
3:00	Everwood "Episode 20"	Movie * 5 "Down to Earth"	NBA Nation Matt Winer, Greg	Oprah Winfrey	Hannity & Colmes	College Basketball Kentucky at Tennessee. (Live)	American Experience: A Bril- liant Madness: The Story	Oprah Winfrey
3:30 4:00	Sister, Sister (Part 2 of 2)	(2001, Comedy) Chris Rock, Regina King, Chazz Palminteri.	Anthony, Tim Legler and Steven A. Smith provide highlights and	NBC Nightly News	Headline News	at lennessee. (Live)	Friends	NBC Nightly News
4:00	Sister, Sister (Part 2 012)	(:43) Movie * * "A Midsum-	analysis.	Judge Judy	Nightly Business Report	1	Seinfeld "The Lip Reader"	Judge Judy
5:00	Sesame Street (EI)	mer Night's Dream" (1999) Kevin Kline, Michelle Pfeiffer. A	Headline News	Access Hollywood	Lou Dobbs Tonight	SportsCenter	Breathingspace Yoga	Access Hollywood
5:30		mischievous fairy wreaks havoc	ESPNews	(:25) Guiding Light			Caribbean Workout	(:25) Guiding Light
6:00	Barney & Friends (EI) Blue's Clues "Nature"	between two sets of lovers.	Headline News Headline News	(:13) General Hospital	Larry King Live	Auto Racing Dakar Rally.	Body Shaping TIPical Mary Ellen	(:13) General Hospital
7:00	Dragon Tales (EI)	The Entertainers	Play With Me Sesame	Larry King Live	NewsNight With Aaron Brown	NFL Total Access	The View	Sylvester & Tweety
7:30	Bob the Builder		Bear in the Big Blue House		-			Buzz Lightyear of Star
8:00	The Wiggles Dora the Explorer	Behind the Scenes Entertainment Tonight	Blue's Clues Wheel of Fortune	The Fairly OddParents My Life as a Teenage Robot	BET Nightly News Tavis Smiley	SportsCenter	Emeril Live	The Fairly OddParents My Life as a Teenage Robot
9:00	Stanley	Movie * * "Catch a Falling	Dr. Phil	Jeopardy!	Nightline	College Basketball Georgia at	30-Minute Moole	Jeopardy!
9:30	Sagwa-Siamese Cat	Star" (2000, Romance) Sela	Ī	Headline News	Headline News	Florida. (Taped)	Food 911	Headline News
10:00	Arthur (EI)	Ward. A spoiled actress tries a life without fame's trappings.	(9:46) Oprah Winfrey	ESPNews	Hardball With Chris Matthews	1	Sensible Chic	ESPNews
10:30	Reading Rainbow (EI) Sagwa-Siamese Cat	(10:48) Movie *** "Gen-	(:35) Guiding Light	Advisory Block The Parkers "At Last"	The O'Reilly Factor	NFL Live	Fashion File E! News Live	Pacific Report The Parkers "At Last"
11:00	Sagwa-Siamese Cat Stanley	(10:48) Movie **** "Gen- tleman's Agreement" (1947,	(:17) General Hospital	Arrested Development	The O Helliy Factor	Pardon the Interruption	The King of Queens	Arrested Development
12:00	Dora the Explorer	tleman's Agreement" (1947, Drama) Gregory Peck, Dorothy McGuire, John Garfield.	Headline News	The Casino	FOX News	SportsCenter	That '70s Show	Extreme Makeover: Home
12:30	The Wiggles "Body"		Judge Judy	1		[ ]	Girlfriends	Edition "Mendoza Family"
13:00	Bob the Builder	Movie * * "The Craft" (1996, Horror) Robin Tunney, Fairuza	Today Morgan Freeman; Jimmy Smits: Susan Sarandon	The District "The Kindness of Strangers"	Fox and Friends	Tennis Australian Open Men's and Women's Quarterfi-	Charmed "Give Me a Sign"	Lost
13:30	Dragon Tales "Up, Up and Away/Ord Sees the Light" Ord	Balk. Teenage witches wreak	, Julian Gulandon.	Pacific Report	Fox and Friends	nals. From Melbourne, Aus-	Ally McBeal "Woman"	Pacific Report
14:30	is trapped inside a bubble. (EI)	havoc at their high school.		The Tonight Show With Jay	1	tralia.		The Tonight Show With Jay
15:00	Funniest Home Videos	(2:49) Movie * * * "Mo' Better	Sylvester & Tweety	Leno	American Morning	1	Any Day Now "It's Your Prob- lem. Not Mine"	Leno
15:30 16:00	Full House Pokémon "Clefairy Tales"	Blues" (1990, Drama) Denzel Washington, Spike Lee, Wesley	Buzz Lightyear of Star The Fairly OddParents	Late Show With David Letter- man	CNN Live Today		Third Watch "Nature or Nur-	Late Show With David Letter-
16:00	Yu-Gi-Oh! (Part 1 of 2)	Snipes.	My Life as a Teenage Robot	Access Hollywood	CHIN Live loudy		ture?"	Access Hollywood
17:00	Doug "Doug: Oh Baby!" (EI)	Inside the Actors Studio 'John	Jeopardy!	Headline News	1	SportsCenter	Law & Order "Mother's Milk"	Headline News
17:30	The Wild Thornberrys	Goodman" John Goodman.	Headline News	The Late Late Show	L			The Late Late Show
18:00	The Fairly OddParents Rugrats	Coming Attractions Entertainment Tonight	ESPNews Headline News	Dennis Miller	FOX News	NBA Basketball Teams to Be Announced. (Taped)	The Simpsons "Pygmoelian" Everybody Loves Raymond	Dennis Miller
18:30 19:00	Even Stevens	Movie ★★% "Zoolander"	The Parkers "At Last"	Dennis Miller	DaySide With Linda Vester	(rapos)	American Idol	- Semina miner
19:30	Kenan & Kel	(2001, Comedy) Ben Stiller, Owen Wilson, Will Ferrell.	Arrested Development	Countdown With Keith Olber-	1			Countdown With Keith Olber-
20:00	Gilmore Girls "The Brace-		Extreme Makeover: Home Edition "Mendoza Family"	mann	FOX News		Andromeda "Belly of the Reast"	mann
20:30	bridge Dinner" Degrassi: Next	(:43) Movie ** "Girl, Inter- rupted" (1999, Drama) Winona	Lost	Entertainment Studios.com The Hot List	Studio B With Shepard Smith	ESPNews Motorcycle Racing AMA/THQ	Heast' Thunder Races	Entertainment Studios.com The Hot List
21:00	Degrassi: Next	Ryder, Angelina Jolie. A trou-	Lust	Headline News	Studio D With Shehard Swith	Supercross Series 250cc.	Illunudi naces	Headline News
22:00	The Cosby Show	bled young woman checks into a psychiatric hospital.	Headline News	Good Morning America		1st & 10	Friends	Good Morning America
22:30	Home Improvement	1	The Tonight Show With Jay		Your World With Neil Cavuto	NFL Live	Seinfeld "The Nonfat Yogurt"	4
23:00	Touched by an Angel "On Edge"	Movie * * "Rush Hour 2" (2001, Action) Jackie Chan.	Late Show-Letterman	1	Lester Holt Live	Around the Horn Pardon the Interruption	Daily Show-Jon Stewart Blind Date	4



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### **FACES**

### Reaction takes Alda by surprise

Alan Alda says he's constantly approached by people surprised at his portrayal of a conservative Republican senator on the TV show "The West Wing."



"I was never asked that when I played a murderer," Alda said. The NBC drama is setting up a long-running story line in which Alda will run for president against a Democrat portrayed by Jimmy Smits. The winner will be inaugurat-

ed on "The West Wing" a year from now John Wells, the show's executive producer, said it has not been decided who will win. He said the show will resist an interactive game in

which viewers decide the winner because the production schedule needs to be set too far in

### eBay sale to aid tsunami victims

Celebrities including actress Eva Longoria and singer Avril Lavigne will auction off personal items on eBay to raise money for survivors of the South Asian tsunami.

Beginning Feb. 7, 40 items will hit the Web site, including "Desperate Housewives" co-star Longoria's cheerleading uniform and a signed skateboard from rocker

The drive, with proceeds going to Save the Children's Asia Earthquake/Tsunami Relief Fund, is sponsored by Us Weekly magazine.

The eBay auction will end Feb. 24.

### Golden girl goes buff

Betty White - yes, that Betty White - goes flesh-toned for a scene in her new TV movie.

During the filming of the Hallmark Channel original movie "Annie's Point," White, 83, and co-star Amy Davidson went bare, sort of, for a grandmother-granddaughter skinny-dipping scene.

"We were not method acting," White said in a statement.

'We had little strapless bathing suits on. I mean, we can act like we're naked.'



### 'Sex' star falls into the Gap — again

Actress Sarah Jessica Parker is falling into more Gap advertisements. The former "Sex and the City" star has signed on to rep-

resent the clothing chain in its spring 2005 marketing camnaign — the third straight in which she's been involved. Her spots pre-

mier sometime in March "I think the Gap is terrifically cre-ative and inspired," said Parker in a statement. "Women will love the clothes for spring." The campaign will encompass

more television and print ads, direct mail and online and in-store marketing elements. In a previous Gap ad, a cast of digi-

tally added Parker clones tromped around rock star Lenny Kravitz. In another, Parker partied with actor Josh Duhamel and R&B singer Mary J. Blige.

### Grammer considers a role in politics

Kelsev Grammer has an eve toward politics, but right now he's focused on helping his ailing wife.

His wife, former Playboy model Camille Donatacci, picked up a parasite last year in Italy, said Grammer,

who was in Washington for a recent inaugural event. "My wife was very ill over the summer and we're still kind of recouping her health," Grammer told AP Radio.

The 49-year-old actor said he's considering running for political office one day. "I come from a family that is traditionally in service. I've always felt an obligation to spend some time in service to the country.

Will Grammer be on the ballot soon? Not likely.

Grammer, who starred on the popular NBC comedy se-"Frasier," says he won't run until "no one really thinks I'm doing it because I'm out of an acting job. The truth is, it would probably be easily another decade, maybe 20 (years).

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

## Bankable Ben

## Stiller's charismatic qualities put him among elite performers at the box office

BY ROBERT W. WELKOS Los Angeles Times

HOLLYWOOD t's a chilly weekday evening at the Lakewood Center mall's Pacific Theatres megaplex, situated in a slice of Southern California suburbia, and people are trickling up to the box office window to purchase tickets for the season's blockbuster comedy, Universal Pictures "Meet the Fockers

The movie, which as of Sunday had grossed more than \$240 million after five weeks in domestic release, features an all-star cast - including Robert De Niro, Dustin Hoffman and Barbra Streisand - but one of the film's major draws is the 39-year-old, curly-haired Ben Stiller, who has

emerged as a box-office powerhouse.

For the last year, Stiller has been on a roll. Besides "Meet the Fockers," the sequel to 2000's hit comedy "Meet the Parents," Stiller starred in three other successful films in 2004 — "DodgeBall: A True Underdog Story." which raked in \$114.3 million in domestic ticket sales; "Starsky & Hutch," which grossed \$88.2 million domestically; and "Along Came Polly," which took in \$88.1 million domesti-cally. That steady box-office clout has elevated Stiller's paycheck to about \$15 million per picture.

But defining Stiller's appeal isn't easy, even for his audi-

"It just seems like he makes movies out of ordinary stuff," said Jay Reyes, 23, of South Gate, standing near the Lakewood theater's ticket window "Like, who's going to make a movie out of dodge ball?" he chuckled.



Anna Rice, 46, of Long Beach,



Ben Stiller.

"If you are in a scene with him, you could not wish to be with a better foil. Hoffman said. "He will set you up. It's like basketball. He doesn't take every shot, like some basketball players we know. He'll pass you the ball because he's in terested in the scene

Hoffman said it also surprised him to discover Stiller had an actor's sensibili-ty rather than a performer's.

"Usually, people who come from comedy tend to perform the part rather than act it," Hoffman said. "There is a difference. But I [realized after working with him that] he came from an acting base. The reason is, he was never satisfied, which is kind of a core ingredient to being a good actor.'

Owen Wilson — who has worked with Stiller on such films as "The Cable Guy," "The Royal Tenenbaums" and "Meet the Parents," and has a small role in "Meet the Fockers" - said audiences were introduced to Stiller's brand of humor more than a decade ago when Stiller had a comedy show on MTV and later signed with Fox, which aired "The Ren Stiller Show" in the 1992-93 television season

"I think people sort of began catching on to his humor with his [Fox] show," Wilson said. "It didn't have a big audience, but it developed sort of a cult following. And I think he sort of built on that to where people kind of caught up with him.

Stiller doesn't rely on stand-up routines to make people laugh. Wilson said.

"He couldn't be further from a class clown or somebody who is on all the time," Wilson said. "That's not Ben, and that's not his brand of humor

Jim Carrey, Will Ferrell and Adam Sandler may have bigger marquee names, but Stiller's box-office appeal is growing. It now reaches beyond U.S. shores, where American comedy doesn't easily translate with foreign audiences. As evidence, The Wall Street Journal recently reported that Stiller's blockbuster "Meet the Parents," took in 49.7 percent, or \$164.2 million, of its total ticket sales abroad. while last year's "Along Came Polly" garnered 48.5 per-

cent, or \$83 million, in foreign markets. That is not to say Stiller hasn't had his share of flops. Envy," a DreamWorks comedy co-starring Jack Black, grossed \$12.2 million last year, and his pairing with Drew Barrymore in the Miramax comedy "Duplex" sank like a stone after sitting on a shelf for at least a vear, grossing a mere \$9.7 million. But when he's in the right vehicle, he reaches all demographics, from teens to adults and both sexes as well, studio

> partnered with DreamWorks, cost an estimated Stiller can be funny whether he's doing broad comedy or just delivering a pained expression, said Stacey Snicer, head of Universal Pic-

executives agree, and his movies are not astronomically expensive ("Fockers," on which Universal

when Hoffman strays into an inappropriate conversation. and back-Stiller falls ward out of his chair. "You can't chair. "You can't help but laugh when he flips over." Snider said.

There's a scene in "Meet

lies are sitting around

having drinks outside

Snider said, in which the fami-

Fockers

Conversely, there's another scene where Hoffman upset comes after learning that his son had gone duck hunting with father-

in-law-to-be De Niro, who is looking on. "Ben doesn't say anything," Snider says. "He knows he

He makes this great perplexed face and decides it's best to exit. People [in the audience1 howl at nothing."



## **Horoscope**

The full moon in creative Leccheers on the spirit of play. One definition for the word "creative" comes from the Encarta World Dictionary: making imaginative use of limited resources available. Keep in mind that it's the limits that give us the impetus to imagine and bring new solutions into existence The full moon pours forth possibilities

### TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

(January 25). The thing or person you're waiting for is waiting for you, too. So stop waiting, and get active in your pursuit now! The next six weeks bring impressive progress in your personal life and put a sheen on your social connections. Adding one terrific person - possibly a Capricorn or Aries — to your circle will open an entire world of adventure.

### ARIES (March 21-April 19).

You rank - it's obvious to everyone around you. There's a man in your realm who desperately wants your respect. You may have to walk cautiously through his place to avoid stepping on the names he'll drop.

### TAURUS (April 20-May 20).

The social arena begs for your input You have something magical to add. You'll need fodder to start the conversation, though, so delve into the day's headlines for some icebreakers. A new love is in the crowd.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Friends could mistake you for their therapist. At a certain point, you have to draw the line, or your energy is sucked into the void of unsolvable problems (only because some problems are not yours to solve)

### CANCER (June 22-July 22).

Loved ones require your understand ing more than ever. So what if you feel under-rehearsed or out of your league? Don't let fear ston you. You can deliver the goods exactly as needed.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Someone is putting on a performance meant to impress you or win your

business. You'll probably be underwhelmed by your experience, but you can see the potential for growth there, too.

### VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You may feel alone on your path

but you're not. You've got key people on your side. **Holiday Mathis** What you know, you know well. You'll find love while learning about what vou don't know.

### LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) The nuzzles you face today are

exactly the kind you usually figure out quickly except these problems have no foreseeable

solution, and you must act on faith. Accept that frustration is a normal part of husiness

### SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).

The one you're interested in will never know unless you make a noticeable effort. Be funny. Risk being embarrassed. Tonight, quality family time makes you feel centered, connected and whole

### SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec.

21). You understand the importance of building and maintaining your own life. You know better than to look to someone else to provide it for you. As the song goes, "God bless the child that's got his own.

### CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan.

19). Concern about doing the wrong thing will undermine the integrity of your creative life. Be bold, even outrageous. You'll be happy later that you played by your own rules

### AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).

All things seem possible, even the impossible ones. You don't mind at all that love relationshins ehh and flow; respect is what you're after. and you get it by giving it. Sagittarius is favored for love

### PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).

Killer career choices involve more than doing what you think will move you up the ladder. Delivering something totally unique is the secret to success. If others are already doing it, you shouldn't.

Creators Syndicate

### **Peanuts**













NEXT WEEK

I NEED

TIME ALONE



JOURNALS,

CERT MONIAL

BOWL OF FUNGE RIPPLE





AND OLD





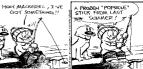






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#### **Eugene Sheffer Crossword** THE NAME'S FRUIT, IFRUIT, I'LL HAVE A DRAM MARTINI, AKEN, NOT STIRRED I SHOULD WARN YOU-I HAVE A LICENSE AGREEMEN HIS SPYWARE SAY, WHY DON'T YOU AND I BOOT TO KILL 22 THAT'S EASY FOR THEM 705AY 30 PLEASE CURB YOUR PET 33 34 40 41 45 46 Baby Blues Classics WELL, I FIGURED THAT THE ONLY WAY TO MAKE TURIN SLEEPL WAS TO SIT DOWN AND TELL THEM THE LONGEST, MOST DRAWN-OUT, EXHAUSTING STORY T 48 49 THEY'RE FINALLY ASUSER COUNT THIN Blues 23 Ballplayer, Across Down father-in-law of 1 News article 1 Devil 3aby I Faith Hill 5 Tel -2 Greek cross 24 Disconcert 9 Pirouette pivot 3 Right angle 26 Imperfection **12** Guy 4 Dissolved 27 Muppet Rizzo, e.g. THAT DRIVER WHO TRIED TO RUN OVER PETER PARKER--- IS NOW GONNA TANGLE WITH SPIDER-MAN! 13 Old Italian bread 5 Part of TAF 28 7em 14 In need of repair 6 Talk show, with 29 Carry "The" 15 Sweaters without 31 Kitchen buttons 7 Like some appliance vhs. 17 Peruke 34 — Reta Kanna 8 Trace 18 Spring event 35 Cautioned 9 Blond 19 California resort 37 "7 Faces of Dr. --" 10 Hodgepodge lake 38 Infant 11 Advantage 21 Fills fully 39 Green acres 16 Reactions of 24 Give the ax 40 Distortion surprise 25 Earsplitting 41 Hollywood clashers 20 Timetable 26 Sweet-smelling 44 Sara of "Less Than abbr. 30 Director Lee Perfect" 21 Venetian blind 31 Conflagration 45 To and piece 32 Pair 46 Ignited 22 Top-notch 33 Pattern 47 "Undeniably" 35 Raised ridge Answer to Previous Puzzle 36 Masticate 37 Big dipper? ноно BED 38 Sadat's co-Nobelist OVERTURE ORAL THE ASTONISHING INCOMPETENCE OF OTHERS CAUSED ME TO JUMP THROUGH A WINDOW AND LAND IN A DUMPSTER. 40 Have on NAME ALICE, WHAT'S THE STATUS OF YOUR PROJECT? WARNINGS SO THEN 42 Melody ELKCABLED NO 43 Broad-winged TSSUES? GNARL PESO insect ONY LININGS 48 Support system? ARELINDA OAR 49 13-Across' AWNINGS SAGA replacement AMOS MOTE 50 Ontario neighbor 51 Archery-bow wood GAMBOLAIL 52 Agents, for short EARNINGS 0 L I 0 53 They're often UNTIDIER ТОМВ connected HUES MIS SAMS 1-25 CRYPTOOUIP

THEN I GOT THE TRASH CAN STUCK IN A DUMPSTER

VET'S SKIP

THEN I GOT THE WASTEBASKET STUCK IN A TRAGH CAN

OKAY

TOPAY I GOT MY HEAD STUCK IN A WASTEBASKET

### ELJ'Z CLFE0.0WEDKIA: FLLUA ICWJVA WMLTJE

ZCAO

DAJEKJV OWICKJAU.

ILKJKDLMLTU Yesterday's Cryptoquip: AT SOME SEASIDE RESTAURANTS, THE BATHROOM DOORS MIGHT SAY "BUOYS" AND "GULLS."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: L equals O

## **Ways to support a grieving mother**

Dear Abby: "Caring Friend in California" was at a loss about whether to hold a baby shower for her friend, whose baby was not expected to make it through the gestation period. You advised her that rather than hold a shower, her Dear Abby

friends should stay close and provide willing ears and shoulders to cry on. A dear friend of my

daughter's faced the same circumstances. We knew that if her baby survived delivery, it would be only a short time until the child was gone. What we did was to create a "memory box." We included a camera to take pictures of the baby, and a smaller version of a baby book to hold the footprints. hand prints, a lock of hair and, of course, the photos. We also bought the infant a cross as she

was immediately baptized. It gave the parents something ry of their baby. It wouldn't hurt for "Caring Friend" to contact the hospital as well, as it may have something already set up for people facing these circumstances

- Hope in Minnesota Dear Hope: Those are wonderful sugges tions. A woman named Michelle wrote me from Las Vegas to say that the March of Dimes has a bereavement packet that could be helpful. In addition to information regarding the loss, it contains a memory book for the lock of hair and/or footprint. The packet

can be obtained from local March of Dimes offices. Read on:

Dear Abby: My heart breaks for the friend who will soon lose the child she has grown to love. I have known many mothers

and fathers who have lost children very young (even through miscarriage), and each one has treasured any reminder of the child they lost. Many hospitals have programs run by volunteers that provide a blanket and a tiny hat to be made available to the grieving parents. "Caring Friend" should give her friend the option of choosing gentle reminders of her love and strength in this time of need, or a small, quiet ceremony of her love to make things easier for her. My guess is she'll choose both. I know I would.

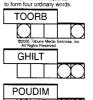
- Mother of Four in Virginia

Dear Mother of Four: Thank you for the input. I received a stack of letters from readers echoing your sentiments and offering suggestions.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069, Readers can write http://www.uexpress.com/deara Universal Press Syndicate

### THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles. one letter to each square.



MOOGLY

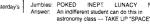
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon

WHAT THE FAST-

TALKING MECHANIC SEEMED TO BE---

**Family Circus** 

(Answers tomorrow) INEPT LUNACY FIESTA



## Don't be in a rush to be kissed

Dear Annie: 1 just came back from my eighth-grade school trip. All of my friends were kissed, or they made out

with guys they met. I have a really good friend, "Nate," and we have a lot of fun just talking, and I don't want to push him into anything. But I feel really pressured to get physical with him because all my friends have done that stuff.

- Confused in Florida — Confused in Florida
Dear Confused: You sound
smarter than most of your friends,
because you already know that
pushing Nate into a physical relationship is a bad idea. Please don't allow these other girls to convince you that you're missing out if you don't have a boyfriend right now. You're not. You are discovering how to have the kind of friendship that provides the basis for a healthy, future relation-ship — one that will last much longer than any of those kiss-and-tell sessions. Take your time and get it right



Dear Annie: Six months ago, my in-laws moved into a local senior apartment com plex. At the time, my father-in-law gave all his tools to my husband, and we placed them in our garage. The condi-tion was that Dad would be able to come to our garage and use his tools Well, Annie, my

father-in-law is in my garage EVERY day. Worse, my husband left a key to our house in the garage and Dad often pops in while I am still asleep. Dad also thinks he is a personal escort for anyone who visits. Even the utility workers cannot enter without my father-in-law, and he insists they enter from the basement which means I have to go down there and lock it after they leave, since

Dad never remembers.

I am usually the only person at home when Dad drops by. I feel like I have a baby-sitter. My husband is somewhat understanding. and we are working with some non-profit groups to see if we can

get them interested in my father-in-law's mechanical talents but if that doesn't work out, my husband refuses to do anything that would limit his father's ac-

cess to our home.

I love my father-in-law dearly and don't want to hurt his feelings or take him away from his tools. Do you have any other sugges-

> - Ready To Burst Daughter-in-Law

Dear Ready To Burst: Your husband should tell his father that he is welcome to use the garage, but not the house. If he isn't willing to do this, approach your father-in-law and say, "Dad, I'm glad you feel comfortable here, but I'd rather you give me some notice before entering the house. Sometimes I'm not dressed. I'm going to keep the deadbolt locked until I am ready for company.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox/ecomeast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndi-date. 5177 W. Century Blvd., Sulter 80, Los Angeles, CA 50045.

# out for it."

### "I don't know where the time goes either, Grandma, but I'll keep an eye









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Save Money Meet New Friends		Sport Utility Vehicle 172	Live out Nanny needed in Ansbach/Lehrberg area, for three children ages 4, 8, & 13. Must have own reliable trans- portation, valid drivers license,	158 Buses/ 162 Four W 164 Motors	/ans/RVs heel Drives	630 Jobs Offered 820 Pets 850 Real Estate	932 Satellite Television 952 Services Offered 1002 Travel Agencies	904 Financial Services 944 Transportation 1000 Travel
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APO/FPO's  Local Reviews   Free Classified  Acts   Overseas Information	\$11,900 call 06195-676851	Dodge Dakota '99, ex. cond, red, sport pkg, 5-spd, 60k mi, pwr-brk, pwr-steering, \$6k obo, call 0160-99664552	COMPUTERS	Home Electr	onics 570	French Bulldog, ShiTzu Schnauzer, Beauceron pur breed puppies al	Worship: 11:00 AM Wed: Bible Study 7:00 PM 0673-2937458 and 0162-8603016 Visit our Web Site @	1100 asking \$ 700. call lea message 09841-403197
Photo Contest   Member Forums   1000+ Links   Zip Code Detabase	loaded, mint cond, 26500 miles, below blue book value \$17500,	Mazda Truck '03, US spec. met-silv, V6 4.0l, 4dr, 3k ml, 3.5 yr, warranty, \$17900 or trade for	NO MONEY DOWN!     LOW PAYMENTS!	mote for sale \$	reciever with re- 300, call Kelli at 9-5700201	shots&wormed, 0175-643547- www.pupplanet.com	www.manz-coc.org	Travel 1000
Automotive 140	Saab 95 '01 U.S specs, fully loaded, 5 spd, leather, prem sound, on star GPS, surroot, under warranty, only 26k miles \$ 16,900 obo call 06783-4448	or www.geocities. com/mazdab4000truck	(Get 2000 = Pay less) Phone: 0700 2832 2255 www.goarmypc.com	PCS Sale Selling comple	780 te_Househould,	with shots, great parents. Prio 550 Euro. Phone 06134-286956 Real Estate 850	Freestanding House direct on woods for sale. 15 min to K-town or Rmstn, on bus rts, 4 Rdm 2 Rth 2 Rignus ktrbn	"Garmisch Skiling" Hotel Forsthaus Oberau 8 kn Nth of Garmisch Hot tub/saun
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SELLING www.militaryusedcars.com FOR ALL YOUR NEW AND USED CAR NEEDS OR CALL 0171-7869250	Volvo 740GL '90 Gold, 5 spd, sunroof, euro spec, 166k miles, \$ 1,000 , call 0172-1542101 Mannheim area		pipe Music: Tickets 14 Euro (3 course meal to include Hag- gis, drinks are not included) in Muhlhausen. Burgersaal	Late 20s Germa	in/American cou-		at's your s	cene?
Meet New Friends Sales - Coupons GOU- Free-Screened Free-S	and 1002-0500077 (100 yr 100 y	Deseg Wrangler 195, bor miss connection, \$50000, doi:10.10.10.10.10.10.10.10.10.10.10.10.10.1	three children pairs 4, 8, 8, 11, 12  proportion, valid divers learner, and proportion, and diverse learner, and a second proportion, and a second proportion of the control of the contro	Furniture  2 black leads  4 black leads  6 black le	heel Drives seats \$350 block leather heads, call heads leather heads	600 New Stocker Pets 820  **Purchase of listed gets to good property for Common Stocker  **Purchase of listed gets to good property for Common Stocker  **Purchase of listed gets to good property for Common Stocker  **Purchase of listed gets to good property for Common Stocker  **Purchase of listed gets to good property for Stocker  **Purchase of listed gets for Stock	952 Services Offered 1902 Trust Agencies  Religious Activities 871  Church of Christ  Very Commonster to Wilebaden, Sand Christ  Very Commonster to Wilebaden, Sand Christ  Wi	Sporting G  TOTAL SYM TOTAL TOTAL SYM TOTAL TOTAL SYM TOTAL TOTAL SYM TOTAL

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### **SCOREBOARD**

### AFN TV & Radio

#### Tuesday

AFN-Sports, 6 a.m.—College basketball: Colorado St. at San Diego St. AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.—NBA: Dallas at L.A. Clip-pers (dld). pers (did).

AFN-Sports, 1 p.m.—College basketball:
Navy at Army (did).

AFN-Sports, 6 p.m.—College football: 2005
Hula Bowl (did). Hula Bowl (dld).

AFN-Sports, 8 p.m.—Tennis: Australian
Open: Men's and women's quarterfinals.

### Wednesday

AFN-Atlantic, 1 a.m.—College basketball: Georgia at Florida. AFN-Sports, 1 a.m.—College basketball: Illinois at Wisconsin.

AFN-Sports, 3 a.m.—College basketball:
Kentucky at Tennessee.

AFH-Sports, 3 a.m.—College basketonai: kentucky at Tennessee.

AFN-Sports, 6 a.m.—Motor racing: AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.—College basketball: Gergia at Florida (did).

AFN-Sports, 1 p.m.—Tennis: Australian Degr. Men's and women's quarterfinals Open: Men's and women's specific (did).

AFN-Sports, 6 p.m.—NBA: Seattle at L.A. Lakers (did).

Lakers (did).

AFN-Sports, 9 p.m.—Motorcycle racing: THQ World Supercross GP (Anaheim) (did). All Times are Central European Time; dld indicates delayed broadcast. All listings are subject to change. Visit www.myafn.net for more information.

## Pro football

### NFL playoffs

NFL playoffs

Wild-card Playoffs

Wild-card Playoffs

Saturday, Jan. 8

St. Louis 7

Saturday, Jan. 9

St. Louis 7

Indianapolity 10 pp. 17

Divisional Playoffs

Pittsburgh 20, 17

Atlanta 47, St. Louis 17

Atlanta 47, St. Louis 17

New England 41, 18

New England 41, 19

New England 4

Super Bowl
Sunday, Feb. 6
Jacksonville, Fla.
New England vs. Philadelnhi

### College basketball

### AP Men's Top 25 fared

Sunday
1. Illinois (19-0) did not play. Next: at No. 24 I. Illinois (13-9) did not play, Next: at No. 24 Missconsin, Tuesday, or play, Next: at Bay-lor, Tuesday, or play, Next: at Bay-lor, Tuesday, or play, Next: at Next (15-9) did not play, Next: at Viegnia, Sutharday, Sutharda

are a produced (19-1) did not play, Next. at Rule, 19-10 (19-1) did not play, Next. at Rule, 19-10 (19-1) did not play, Next. at Tennessee, Fuesday, 19-10 did not play, Next. at Tennessee, Fuesday, 19-10 (Next. 19-1) did not play, Next. s. 10. Washington (19-2) best Washington (19-2) did not play, Next. s. Portland, Salurday, 19-3) did not play, Next. s. Portland, Salurday, 19-3 did not play, Next. vs. No. 19 Washington, Thursday, Next. vs. No. 19 Washington, Thursday, Next. vs. 11, Louisville (19-3) did not play, Next. vs. 15. Topas (14-4) did not play, Next. vs. 15. Topas (14-4) did not play, Next. vs. 16. Connection (11-4) did not play, Next. vs. 19-10 (11-4) did not play, Next. vs. 19

15. Torsa (1.44) did not play, Next: va. 16. Torsa (1.44) did not play. Next: at West Wighlish Leeddy. 14. did not play. Next: at West Wighlish Leeddy. 14. did not play. Next: at West Wighlish Leeddy. 14. did not play. Next: 48. LSA. Satisfy Get not alsay. Next: vs. No. 5 Oktaboras State. Windows. No. 5 Oktaboras State. (12.3) did not play. Next: at No. 15. did not play. Next: at North-Libert State. (13.3) did not play. Next: at North-Libert State. (13.3) did not play. Next: at North-Libert State. (13.3) did not play. Next: at North-Western. Wednesdy. or play. Next: at North-Western. Wednesdy. 25. Marquete (14.3-) did not play. Next: at North-Western. Wednesdy. 25. Marquete (14.3-) did not play. Next: at North-Western. Wednesdy. 25. Marquete (14.3-) did not play. Next: at North-North-Marquete (14.3-) did not play. North-Marquete (14.3-) did not play. North-Marqu

### Sunday's men's scores

January 5 mell"s Score

EAST
American U. at Holy Cross, ppd.
Army 63, Navy 163, 68
Brooklyn 12, Nichols 68
Boxhell 65, Leihgh 63
Boxhell 65, Leihgh 63
Dudjuesn 63, 51. Bonnaventur 70
Dudjuesn 63, 51. Bonnaventur 70
Georgetown 55, Notre Dame 54
Gettysburg 80, McDaniel 50
Goucher 69, Mayrmount, Va. 62
Hawerford 50, Franklin 6, Marshall 86
Maine 67, Northeastern 60 Maine 67, Northeastern 60 Oswego St. 67, Cortland St. 65 Washington, Mo. 93, Carnegie-Yeshiya 87 Washington, Mo. 93, Carnegie-Mellor Yeshiva 83, Johnson & Wales, Fla. 72 SOUTH Belmont 67, UCF 52 -Mellon 83 Brandels 71, Emory 66 Georgia St. 72, Mercer 61 Lipscomb 68, Florida Atlantic 66 Millsaps 70, LaGrange 66 N.C. State 85, Maryland 69 MIDWEST Adrian 76, Kalamazon 67

Adrian 76, Kalam Coe 85, Simpson Adrian 76, Kalamazoo 67 Coe 85, Simpson, Iowa 78 DePauw 74, Hendrix 60 Dubuque 86, Cornell, Iowa 63 Edgewood 99, Wis, Lutheran 95 Edgewood 99, Wis. Lutheran 95 lowa Wesleyan 92, Waldorf 61 Millikin 81, North Park 73 NYU 90, Case Reserve 82 Otterbein 82, Muskingum 74 Otterbein 82, Muskingum 74 Rose-Hulman 62, Rhodes 17 Southwest St., Minn. 79, Minn.-Crookston 70 Winnon St. 73, Minn.-Moorhead 68 SOUTHWEST Trinlty, Texas 77, Sewanee 62

FAR WEST
Washington 66, Washington St. 48

### AP Women's Top 25 fared

1. Duke (18-1) did not play. Next: at No. 9 North Carolina, Morn of play. Next: at No. 9 North Carolina, Morn of North of North Office L LSU (18-1) beat No. 17 Vanderbilt 79-68. Next: vs. Auburn, Sunday. 3. Ohio State (19-2) beat Northwestern 71-59. Next: at Wisconsin, Thursday. 4. Baylor (13-3) did not play. Next: vs. exas A&M, Wednesday.

5. Stanford (17-2) did not play. Next: at

Texas ASA, Wednesday,

Washington, Thursday, on play, Next, at

Washington, Thursday, on play, Next, at

Sanghard, Thursday, and the standard of the

Medicaday,

1, Tennessee (1:3) Best Next Next Next Next

1, Tennessee (1:3) Best Next Next Next

1, Tennessee (1:3) Best Next Next Next

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1, Medicaday, Thursday, Next va.

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Self Automobility of Self-Line No. 1 (1969). Self-Line No. 2 (1969). Self-Line

### Sunday's women's scores

Army 64, Navy 50 Army 54, Navy 50 EASI
Boston College at Providence, ppd.
College at Providence, ppd.
College 52, Recombine 54
College 52, Recombine 54
College 76, Lafayette 75
Daylon 63, Fordham 50
Delaware 70, Hofstra 54
Dequesne at Rhode Island, ppd.
George Washington 97, St. Bonaventure 42
Lehigh 52, Buckmell 44
Lehigh 52, Buckmell 44

George Weshington 97, St. Bowsenture 4, Ling St. St. Common 197, St. Bowsenture 4, Ling St. Buckers 39 (197), St. George Western 39 (197), St. George Western 39 (197), St. George Western 39, St. George St. St. Cottant 35, 47 Julichigan St. 56 Jul

Georgia Tech 62, Milami 46 J James Madison 72, N.C.-Willmington 50 LSU 79, Vanderbilt 68 LGGrape 63, Milisaps 59 LOUISWIRE 50, Houston 40 N.C., State 57, Maryland 55 South Florida 72, Memphis 58 Temple 82, Richmond 62 Tennessee 67, Kentucky 49 Tulane 74, Marquette 54 UAB 85, Saint Louis 66 Virgina 63, Dartmouth 70

Wake Forest 86, Clemson 71 MIDWEST Albion 87, Adrian 63 DePauw 72, Hendrix 50 Indiana St. 81, Bradley 74 Loras 72, Cornell, Iowa 47 Michigan 63, Indiana 61 Minn.-Moorhead 78, Winona Michigan G3, Indiana G1, Michigan G3, Indiana G1, Minescia R8, Illinois G8
N. Iowa G4, Illinois S1. 56
N. Iowa G4, Illinois S1. 57
Otter-bein G5, Michigan G5
Otter-bein G6, Michigan G5
Otter-bein G6, Michigan G5
ST, Nachel Human S5
SW Missouri S1. G6, Creighton S1
SW Missouri S1. G6, Creighton S1
SW Missouri S1. G6, Creighton S1
William Jewell G3, Missouri Valley S0
William Jewell G3, Missouri Valley S0
William Jewell G3, Missouri Valley S0
William Jewell G4, Missouri Valley S0
Illiam Jewell G4, Missouri Valley S0
Illiam Jewell G4, Missouri Valley S1
Illiam Jewell G4, Missouri Valley S1
William Jewell G4, William Jewell G5
William Jewell G5, William Jewell G5
William Jewell G5, William Jewell G5
William Jewell G5, William Jewell G5
William Je nona St 61

### Golf

### **Buick Invitational**

Buick Invitational

At trong place - Seed 17, 256 yards
At Torng place - Seed 17, 256 yards
At Torng place - Seed 17, 256 yards
At Torng place - Seed 17, 256 yards
Part Cod | 17, 256 yards
Part Co -16 -13 -13 -13 -11 -10

T. Armout in \$3,8380 ... 12-17,1-25
Imment Directly \$1,8380 ... 12-17,1-25
Imment Directly \$1,8380 ... 12-18-17,1-25
Imment Directly \$1,8380 ... 12-18-17,1-25
Imment Directly \$1,9380 ... 12-18-17,1-

bb-13-1b-19-288
T1-91-73-73-288
T1-17-74-73-289
T1-97-75-75-290
T3-66-74-77-290
T7-91-76-74-291
T2-70-75-74-291
T2-70-75-74-291
T2-70-75-74-291
T2-69-71-81-293
68-71-78-77-294
T2-69-71-81-293
T2-70-77-75-294
T2-70-78-74-294
T2-68-71-88-72-89-295
68-71-78-77-294
T2-68-71-88-72-89-295
68-71-78-77-294
T2-68-71-88-72-89-295
68-71-78-78-81-295

John Daly, \$9,264 John Daly, \$9,264 Charlie Wi, \$9,264 Michael Long, \$9,264 Bill Glasson, \$8,976

BIII Glasson, 3-0-7 Ryuji Imada, \$8,976 68-74-73-80-25-5 Scott Simpson, \$8,784 69-71-81-75-296 Harrison Frazar, \$8,784 68-74-76-78-65 Will MacKenzie, \$8,640 74-67-80-76-297 Joey Sindelar, \$8,544 71-71-77-79-298

HEY, ARIZONA?

World Golf rank
Through Jan. 23
2. Figure 15
2. Figure 15 5.06 4.88 4.77 4.62 4.36 4.11 4.03 3.92 3.52 3.49 3.47 3.43 3.36 3.35 3.23

16. Chad Campbell
17. Luke Donald
18. David Toms
19. Kenny Perry
20. Todd Hamilton
21. Stephen Ames
22. Jim Furyk
23. Scott Verplank
24. Shigeki Maruyama
25. Lee Westwood
26. Chol Kyung-Ju
27. Thomas Bjorn
28. Jonathan Kaye
29. Jav Hasa 3.17 3.05 3.00 2.95 2.89 2.86 2.85 27. Ino... 28. Jonathan A., 29. Jay Haas 30. Paul Casey Angel Cabrera 2.82 2.77 2.69 2.67 2.64 2.62 2.57 2.55 2.55 32. Charles Howell 33. Rory Sabbatini 34. Jerry Kelly 35. Fred Couples 36. Robert Allenby 37. Tom Lehman 38. Peter Lonard 39. Ian Poulter 40. Justin Leonard 2.50 2.49 2.45 2.44 2.37 2.31 2.30 2.28

40. Justin Leonard 41. Steve Flesch 42. John Daly 43. David Howell 44. Fredrik Jacobs 45. Mark Hensby 46. Thomas Levet 47. Nick O'Hern 48. Zach Johnson 49. Tim Clark 50. Rodney Pampling

2005 Presidents Cup points Through Jan. 23 United States

7,793,472 5,806,135 5,237,737 3,227,885 2. Phil Mickelson 3. Stewart Cink 4. Todd Hamilton 4. Todd Hamilton 5. Davis Love III 6. Jonathan Kaye 7. Charles Howell III 8. Chris DiMarco 9. David Toms 10. Jerry Kelly 11. Zach Johnson 12. Steve Flesch 3,227,885 3,075,092 2,992,172 2,977,085 2,971,842 2,867,531 2,717,022 2,669,551 2,617,003 12. Steve Freed.

13. John Daly

14. Chad Campbell

15. Scott Verplank

Inte

Fij 13.18 SAf 10.88 SAf 7.22 Can 5.06 Aus 4.62 Aus 4.36 T&T 3.35 Jpn 3.17 Kor 3.00 Arg 2.82 SAf 2.69 Aus 2.62 Vijay Singh
 Ernie Els
 Retief Goosen
 Mike Weir 5. Stuart Appleby 6. Adam Scott 7. Stephen Ames 8. Shigeki Maruyama 9. Choi Kyung-Ju 10. Angel Cabrera Aus Aus Aus

10. Angel Cabrera 11. Rory Sabbatin 12. Robert Allenb 13. Peter Lonard 14. Mark Hensby 15. Nick O'Hern

2006 Ryder Cup points United States Through Jan. 23

252.500 200.000 161.250 120.000 110.000 Stewart Cini
 Tom Lehmar
 Ryan Palmer
 Fred Funk . Woody Austin . David Toms 7. David Toms 8. Vaughn Taylor 9. Hunter Mahan 10. Charles Howell III 11. Bart Bryant 12. Brent Geiberger 13. Zach Johnson 14. Jerry Kelly 15. Tommy Armour III 88.333 87.500 85.500 78.750 75.000 72.500

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×Dana Quigley, 27,27000 57-65-66-199-17 om Walson, \$15,3000 69-66-199-17

MUAR/HUDS

### World Golf ranking

Gil Morgan, \$110,000 Mark McNulty, \$77,500 mark McNulty, \$77,500 Wayne Levi, \$77,500 Rodger Davis, \$60,500 Craig Stadler, \$60,500 Tom Purtzer, \$51,000 Peter Jacobsen, \$43,75

Craig Stadler, 800,000
Tom Purtzer, \$51,000
Peter Jacobsen, \$61,500
Peter Jacobsen, \$61,500
David Eger, \$35,500
Morris Hatalsky, \$35,500
Bor Glider, \$35,500
Bruce Fleisher, \$30,000
John Jacobs, \$30,000
Jacobs, \$21,000
Larry Nelson, \$21,000
DA. Weibring, \$21,000
D.A. Weibring, \$21,000
Bruce Lietzke, \$16,166,67 Mark valles, S.7.00 Melloring, S21,000 Bruce Lietzke, S16,166.67 Allen Doyle, S16,166.67 V. Fernandez, S16,166.67 V. Fernandez, S16,166.60 B. Summerhays, S14,500 Lee Trevino, S13,750 Doug Tewell, S13,750 Doug Tewell, S13,750 Day Sigel, S12,500 Gary Player, S11,500 Gary Player, S11,500 Arnold Palmer, S11,000

70-69-67-206 67-70-69-206 68-67-71-206 69-69-69-207 67-67-73-207 69-67-72-208 69-67-72-208 69-71-69-209 70-69-70-209 71-68-70-209 69-69-71-209 69-69-71-209 71-67-71-209 70-67-72-209 68-67-74-209 72-71-67-210 71-68-71-210 67-71-72-210 72-71-72-215 75-69-72-216 74-74-71-219 80-81-81-242

### Skiing Men's World Cup

## Monday At Kitzbuehel, Austria Super-G mann Maier, Austria, 1 minute, 22.39

seconds.

2. Daron Rahives, United States, 1:22.41.

3. Fritz Strobi, Austria, 1:22.93. 5. Fritz Strobl, Austria, 1:22.93.
4. Didier Defago, Switzerland, 1:23.02.
5. Aksel Lund Svindal, Norway, 1:23.06.
(tidel) Bode Miller, United States, 1:23.06.
7. Benjamin Raich, Austria, 1:23.10.
8. Kjetil-Andre Aamodi, Norway, 1:23.13.
9. Stephan Goergi, Austria, 1:23.17.
World Cup overall standings World Company (After 24 races)
1. Bode Miller, United States, 1,093 points 1:23.35

 Hermann Maier, Austria, 292.
 Bode Miller, United States, 275.
 Michael Walchhofer, Austria, 184.
 Stephan Goergl, Austria, 185.
 Benjamin Raich, Austria, 162.
 Daron Rahives, United States, 159.
 Mario Scheiber, Austria, 130.
 Aksel Lund Svindal, Norway, 128.
 Fritz Strob, Austria, 124.
 Marco Buchel, Liechtenstein, 10.
 Marco Buchel, Liechtenstein, 10. rtenstein, 109.

## Soccer

### 2005 U.S. World Cup qualifying schedule

qualifying schedule
a-Wednesday, Fob. 9 - xs. Trinidad and Tobago at Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago at Port-of-Spain, Trinidad Collinday, March 27 - vs. Medico at Mexicologian, March 27 - vs. Guatemala, Septembersday, March 30 - vs. Guatemala, Septembersday, March 30 - vs. Guatemala, Septembersday, March 30 - vs. Guatemala, Septembersday, Nune 8 - at Panama, Septembersday, Nune 8 - at Panama, Septembersday, Nune 8 - at Panama, Septembersday, Nun 8 - at Panama, Septembersday, Nun 17 - vs. Trinidad and Tobago, Sept. 3 or Sun, Sept. 4 - vs. Mexico, Sept. 3 or Sun, Sept. 4 - vs. Mexico, Sept. 3 or Sun, Sept. 7 - at Gustanta as Salt, Oct. 8 or Sun, Oct. 9 - at Costa Rica, Sewichnesday, Oct. 17 - vs. Saltamana.

### Military basketball

Northern Region men Heidelberg 85, Ramstein 77 Top scorers-Rams: Austin Layton 14, Ger-sichael Klerner Serberg 10, Morthern Region women Heidelberg 55, Ramstein 57 (Saturday at Heidelberg) (Saturday at Heidelberg) Top scorers-Rams: B. Junes 20; Heid: Tiffa-ny Collins 20, Nina Beamon 15.

### Deals

### Weekend transactions

Weekend transactions
MARSHALL

econdary coach.

COLLEGE

MONTANA—Announced F Kamarr Davis as regained academic eligibility.

NEW MEXICO STATE—Announced the reirement of Lou Henson, men's basketball

## TANK MCNAMARA



PHOENIX COYOTES. TEXAS, FOR PETE'S SAKE? DALLAS STARS C'MON, FLORIDA? (2004 STANLEY CUP CHAMPIONS TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING.



## Suns snap out of slump behind Nash, Stoudemire

Steve Nash and the Phoenix Suns are back to full speed

Playing for the second time after missing 3½ games because of thigh and back injuries. Nash had a season-high 30 points to help the Suns snap a six-game losing streak with a 113-105 victory over the New Jersey Nets on Sunday night.

The All-Star guard was 5-for-6 from three-point range and had

"It didn't feel like a season high," Nash said. "I just kind of picked my spots and had a really good rhythm from three. It was nice to make some shots be-



cause didn't really have our legs under us or play our best.'

Amare Stoudemire led the Suns with 33 points on 13-for-16 shooting. He made his first eight shots and was 13-for-14 before missing two in a row in the fourth quarter.

"It seemed kind of unnatural for us to be on a six-game losing streak this year," Stoudemire said "But I knew it was a matter of time for us to get back to where we were. We've just got to stay fo cused, and keep up the good work

Vince Carter scored 32 points, and Jason Kidd had 23 points, eight rebounds and eight assists for the Nets, who did not arrive in Phoenix until 10 a.m. because of the blizzard in the Northeast

They had their season-best three-game winning streak snapped in the first of five in a row on the road.

In Nash's first game back, he had 16 points and 13 assists in Phoenix's 128-123 overtime loss to San Antonio on Friday night. "You can see the difference in

our team with Jason back, and the people in Phoenix have seen what the Suns are with or without Steve Nash," Nets coach Lawrence Frank said. "Those guys, they're priceless. They just make everybody better." Quentin Richardson

5-for-10 from three-point range and scored 20 points for Phoenix. which will open a six-game trip Tuesday night in New York. Joe Johnson added 15 points, and Shawn Marion had 10 points and 13 rebounds

The Suns (32-10) were 15-for-30 on three-pointers. They made five three-pointers, two aniece by Nash and Richardson in a 19-2 outburst that erased a five-point deficit and made it 76-64 with 6:02 to go in the third quarter.

"They have shooters every-where," Kidd said. "In the third quarter, they caught fire and that's when they separated themselves, but we didn't quit.'

Jim Jackson scored two points on 1-for-3 shooting and drew five fouls in 17 minutes in his first game for Phoenix - and first any where since Houston traded him to New Orleans on Dec. 26. He re-fused to report to the Hornets.



Suns forward Amare Stoudemire shoots over Nets forward Nenad Krstic for two of his 33 points as Phoenix ended a six-game skid.

and was traded to Phoenix on Friday for reserves Casey Jacobsen, Maciej Lampe and Jackson Vroman. The Suns also got a 2005 second-round draft pick.

Spurs 103. Kings 73: Tim Duncan had 23 points and 13 rebounds, and San Antonio emphatically snapped Sacramento's six-game winning streak, handing the Kings their worst home loss in more than seven years.

Tony Massenburg had a sea son-high 16 points against his former teammates to help the NBA-leading Spurs improve to

Mike Bibby scored 13 points for the Kings, who lost for the first time since acquiring Cuttino Mobley two weeks ago from Or-lando. Chris Webber played just 13 minutes because of an ankle in-

Bucks 101, Knicks 96: At lew York, Desmond Mason scored 22 points to lead Milwaukee in Herb Williams' first game since he took over the Knicks Saturday after Lenny Wilkens' resignation.

The Bucks, who have won three of four, led 75-70 after the third quarter, and increased the advantage to 85-76 with about six minutes left. The Knicks, behind Jamal Crawford and Stephon Marbury, got within 91-89 with iust more than two minutes remaining.

However, New York couldn't make any defensive stops when it had to. A basket by Maurice Williams and an open three-pointer from the right corner against a zone defense by Michael Redd put Milwaukee up 96-89.

Stephon Marbury had 33 points for New York in its 10th loss in 11 games.

Mavericks 95. Nuggets 93: At Dallas, Dirk Nowitzki scored nine of his 35 points in the final 5 minutes - including a three-point play with 17.9 seconds left.

Michael added 17 points for the Mavericks. Kenyon Martin led Denver with 19 points and 11 re-

Heat 97, Hornets 68: Dwyane Wade had 18 points and seven assists, and Miami built a 25-point, first-quarter lead on the way to an easy victory at home.

Miami's 56-25 halftime lead matched the franchise's largest after two quarters - and marked the lowest scoring first half in Hornets history; Charlotte had 27 at halftime in Minnesota on Nov.

SuperSonics 122, Jazz 105: Rashard Lewis scored 36 points barely missing a season high, and Antonio Daniels had 24 points and eight assists for the host Su-

Seattle shot 59 percent (38-of-64) from the floor to snap a two-game losing skid. Carlos Boozer led Utah with 20 points and 12 rebounds.

Raptors 103. Bobcats 92: At Toronto, Jalen Rose scored 14 of his 22 points in the fourth quarter to help Toronto hand Charlotte its eighth straight loss.

Morris Peterson added 26 points for the Raptors. Primoz Brezec had 19 points and tied a career high with 12 rebounds for the Bobcats.

### NBA scoreboard

### **Eastern Conference**

Atlantic					
	w	Ţ	Pct	GB	
Philadelphia	18	21	.462	_	
Boston	18	22	.450	1/2	
Toronto	18	24	.429	11/2	
New York	17	23	.425	11/2	
New Jersey Southeas	15	25	.375	31/2	
Southeas	t Divis	ion			
Miami	30	12	.714	-	
Washington	24	15	.615	41/2	
Orlando	22	17	.564	61/5	
Charlotte	-8	29	.216	191/2	
Atlanta	8	30	.211	20	
Central	Divisio	n			
Cleveland	24	15	.615	-	
Detroit	23	17	.575	11/2	
Indiana	20	19	.513	4	
Chicago	19	19	.500	41/2	
Milwaukee	15	24	.385	9	

### **Western Conference**

Southwe					Miami_
an Antonio Iallas Memphis Iouston	W 34 27 23 22	9 12 19 19	.791 .692 .548 .537	GB - 5 10½ 11	Three-P (Dickau 3- 0-2, Jacob Wang 1-1, 0-1, E.Jon
lew Orleans Northwe	7	.33	.175	251/2	bounds-1 Miami 54
eattle finnesota enver ortland Itah	28 21 17 15	11 19 23 24 28	.718 .525 .425 .385 .333	7½ 11½ 13 15½	17 (Jacobs Fouls—Ne (19,600).
hoenix acramento .A. Lakers .A. Clippers iolden State	32 27 22 18 12	10 12 16 22 29	.762 .692 .579 .450 .293	3½ 8 13 19½	4-6 5-6 13, Carter 13- 1-1 3, Scal Totals 36-

Toronto 103, Charlotte 92
Toronto 103, Charlotte 92
Dallas 95, Denver 93
Miliwaukee 101, New York 96
Miami 97, New Orleans 68
Phoenix 113, New Jersey 105
Seattle 122, Utah 105

Seattle 122, Utan 105 San Antonio 103, Sacramento Monday's game Miami at Philadelphia Washington at Cleveland Chicago at Atlanta Detroit at Minnesota Orlando at Houston San Antonio at Portland Dallas at L.A. Clippers

mi at Toronto nohis at Cleveland

### Sunday Raptors 103. Bobcats 92

CHARLOTTE - Wallace 2-7 2-4 6, Okafor -16 1-1 9, Brezec 8-16 3-5 19, Rush 4-13 2-2 4-16 1-1 9, Brezec 8-16 3-5 19, Rush 4-13 2-2 11, Hart 7-14 0-2 14, Kapon 4-8 3-4 12, Samp-son 0-1 0-0 0, Ely 4-5 1-2 9, Bogans 4-7 1-1 10, Smith 1-4 0-0 2. Totals 38-9 11 3-2 192. TORONTO — E.Williams 1-6 0-0 2, Bosh 9-17 3-4 21, Araujo 3-5 0-0 7, Peterson 8-15 6-6 26, Alston 5-12 4-6 14, Rose 8-15 2-2 22, Woods 1-10 0-2, Palacio 2-2 0-0 4, Bonner 2-4 0-0 5.

otals 39-77 15-18 103 Charlotte Chariotte 29 30 21 12 – 29 70 27 Toronto 27 27 42 42 56–103 Three-Point Goals—Chariotte 3.7 (Kapono 11 10 10 22 (Rose 4-6, Peterson 4-7, Avaijo 1-1, Bonner 1-3, Aiston 0-1, E.Williams 0-0, Fouled Out –None. Rebounds—Charlotte 5 (Brezec 12), Toronto 47 (Bosh, Araujo 8), Assists—Charlotte 20 (Hart 11), Toronto 22 (Aiston 8). Total Fouls—Charlotte 18, Toro 21. Technical—Araujo, A—14,196, (19,800).

Mavericks 95, Nuggets 93 DENVER — Martin 8-20 3-5 19, Anthony 6-13 1-114, Camby 2-40-04, Buckner 3-5-0-06, Mill-er 5-14 6-7 16, Russell 1-4 0-0 2, Elson 3-6 4-6 10, Boykins 3-9 4-411, D.Johnson 2-50-05, Ts-kitishvill -0-0-00, White 3-5 0-0 6. Totals 36-85 18-23 93.

8-13 35, Dampier 3-6 3-4 9, Finley 7-16 3-4 17, Terry 6-9 0-0 15, Stackhouse 3-13 5-6 11, Hend-erson 3-5 0-0 6, Dev.Harris 1-2 0-0 2, Bradley 0-0 0-0 0, Armstrong 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 36-78

ballas 22 55 44 24—55
Three-Point Goals—Dewer 3-14 (Anthony
1-2, Boylons 1-3, Dubrison 1-4, White 0-lis1-2, Boylons 1-3, Dubrison 1-4, White 0-lis1-2, Boylons 1-3, Dubrison 1-4, White 0-lis1-2, Found 1-4, Terry 3-1, Nowitzki 1-2, Finity 9-1, Stackhouse 0-3). Fouled Out—None. Rebound5-Demer 48 (Martin 11), Dallas 56 (Dampier
5-Demer 48 (Martin 11), Dallas 56 (Dampier
5-Demer 48 (Martin 11), Dallas 56 (Dampier
5-Demer 48 (Martin 11), Dallas 50 (Dampier
5-Demer 48 (Martin 11), Dallas 50

### Bucks 101, Knicks 96

Three-Point Goals—Milwaukee 3.10 (Nukos 1.2, Redd 1.3, Jannes 1.3, Van Horn 0-2), New York 3-14 (Crawford 3-10, J.Williams 0-1, Marbury 0-3), Fouled Out-None. Rebounds—Milwaukee 49 (Gadzuric 13), New York 48 (Sweetney 11). Assists—Milwau-kee 21 (Mason 7), New York 18 (Marbury 6). Total Fouls—Milwaukee 25, New York 24. Total Fouls-Milwa A-19.563 (19.763).

### Heat 97, Hornets 68

NEW ORLEANS — Rogers 4-6-7-2-10, Nailon 3-12-3-4-9, Brown 1-9-0-0-7, Smith 15-0-0-2, Dickau 6-12-17-16, Jacobsen 2-9-5-9, Nach-bar 3-8-0-0-7, Andersen 3-9-3-3-9, Lampe 1-4-0-2, Vroman 1-2-0-0-7, Crotal 2-5-7-6-14-16-8, MIAMI — EJones 3-7-0-0-6, Hasiem 4-6-0-0 8, O'Neal 5-8-2-12, DJones 5-8-0-13, Wade 7-11-4-5, Bobleac-6-11-1-13, Dooling 4-7-4-4 13, Butler 1-9-0-3, Latther 2-4-0-4, Anderson 0-3 0-0 0, Wang 1-3 0-0 3, Person 2-3 0-0 4. Totals 40-80 11-12 97.

### uns 113, Nets 105

### Sonics 122, Jazz 105

UTAH — Boozer 8-15 4-7 20, Harpring 5-11 6-6 16, Borchardt 3-5 3-3 9, Giricek 5-11 0-1 10, Mcl end 2-7 2-47, Lopez 1-4 0-0 2, Okur 7-85-6 19, Kirilenko 4-6 6-7 14, Bell 1-4 0-0 2, Eisley 2-11 2-2 6, Humphries 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 38-82

### Spurs 103, Kings 73

SAN ANTONIO — Bowen 4-10 0-0 10, Dun-can 11-19 1-1 23, Massenburg 6-9 4-5 16, Glno-bili 4-8 2-2 10, Parker 6-12 1-2 13, Barry 3-6 1-1 8, Rose 2-6 1-2 5, Udrih 3-6 2-2 9, Brown 0-3 0-0 0, Marks 3-8 2-2 8, Wilks 0-1 1-2 1. Totals 

ber 3-6-0-6, Miller 4-9, 2-4 10, Mobiley, 2-7-5-8, Bibby 4-8 5-5 1, 3. Stertag 0-6 1-2, 1. Ev5-6, 9, Bibby 4-8 5-5 1, 3. Stertag 0-6 1-2, 1. Ev5-6, 3-11, 2-2, 8. Songalia 3-5-0-0, 6, Martin 1-5-2-44, House 2-6-0-0, 4, Barnes 1-2-0-0-2, Bradley 1-1-0-2, Totals 27-72 18-25 73. San Antonio Sacramento 16 20 18 19-73 Three-Point Coals—San Antonio 4-17

San Antonio
Sarcamento

## NBA leaders

NBA leaders

Through Jan. 22

Scoring

Ref. Pr PTS

37 359 298 1060

34 285 298 934 1060

Phote. 43 386 274 1046

u. 39 346 274 1046

u. 39 370 213 9865

39 370 213 9865

39 370 213 9865

39 370 224 807

10 40 349 229 131

10 35 255 113 739

Rebounds Iverson, Phil. Bryant, LAL Nowitzki, Dali, Stoudemire, Pr McGrady, Hou. James, Clev. Wade, Mia. Allen, Sea. Arenas, Wash. O'Neal, Mia. Garnett, Minn. Jefferson, N. I. bounds G OFF DEF TOT AVG 40 131 453 584 14.6 32 128 263 391 12.2 42 143 356 499 11.9 36 146 262 408 11.3 40 137 315 452 11.3

B. Wallace, Det. Duncan, S.A. Okafor, Char. Murphy, G.S.

Knight, Char. Marbury, N.Y. Wade, Mia. Iverson, Phil.

G AST AVG 29 271 39 335 37 277 37 273 39 287

## **Woods ends drought in bizarre Buick** Huskies 'tough out'

BY DOUG FERGUSON The Associated Pres

SAN DIEGO - Tiger Woods won't get any style points for winning the Buick Invitation-

Usually an intimidating presence on the back nine, he was the guy having to scramble to make pars just to keep pace with Tom Lehman. Woods had two chances to remove all the suspense at Torrey Pines, and he responded by missing a 6-foot birdie putt at No. 17, and whiffing on a 2-iron approach to the 18th. All that mattered in the fading sunlight Sun

day was putting his hands

Golf roundup

on the trophy. "A great win," Woods said after a 4-under 68 on the South course at Torrey Pines, giving him a three-shot victory over Le-

hman, Luke Donald and hard-luck Charles Howell III. "It was a battle out there."

The only thing that looked vaguely familiar

was Woods smiling wide on the 18th green, hugging his caddie and posing with an oversized check - \$864,000 that put him atop the PGA Tour money list.

Everything else was as bizarre as the fog that seeped quickly across Torrey Pines and reduced visibility so much that the Buick Invi tational nearly had its first Monday finish in

the 53-year history. How strange was it? Woods figured he would need a 32 on the back nine to win. He

shot 35 and won by three He hit a shot so badly that it actually turned out to be good.

With a one-shot lead on the par-5 18th and Lehman already having laid up, Woods tried to hit a 2-iron from 240 yards over the pond to the right side of the green.

"I absolutely whiffed it," Woods said Lucky him.

He fanned it so much to the right that it found a narrow strip of fairway just right of the pond. Lehman needed a birdie to have any chance of a playoff, but instead hit his sand wedge short. He was lucky it hung up on the hill instead of going into the water

Woods then played a pitch above the hole, hopeful it would spin back down toward the cup. It didn't, leaving him a slippery 18-footer. He wanted to die the ball into the cup, but rapped it too hard. But the putt was on the



Tiger Woods celebrates as he birdies the 18th hole to secure victory in the Buick Invitational.

right line, and it dove into the cup for a birdie

that ended an odd tournament. Lehman summed it up best

'He whipped the field playing lousy," Lehman said. "I give him a lot of credit." Woods finished at 16-under 272, his first come-from-behind victory in the final round since the 2001 NEC Invitational, and his first stroke-play title on the PGA Tour since the 2003 American Express Championship. His only victory last year was the Match Play

Even so, Woods needed some help.

First to his defense were those crazy golfing gods, who conspired against Howell. He was at 14 under when his sand wedge from 95 vards into the 18th green was perfect.

Too perfect, it turns out.

Championship.

The ball landed in the bottom of the cup, ricocheted out and went into the pond, turning an eagle into a bogey. Howell took off his can and stared in disbelief.

"I knew I hit the shot perfect," Howell said after his 72. "And then to hit the hole and go into the water, I didn't know whether to laugh or cry. Obviously, it's a crazy game.

Donald was a model of consistency, giving

himself a birdie putt on every hole through No. 13 and building a one-shot lead. He had control of the tournament until two bad swings. The first one was a 6-iron that went over the 14th green and into a hazard, leading to double bogey. Then he pulled his tee shot on No. 17 into the bushes and had to scramble for a bogey, leaving him at 73 and three shots hehind

The final gift came from Lehman.

He was trying to become the first active Ryder Cup captain since Jack Nicklaus (1986 Masters) to win on tour. He played 32 holes on Sunday, and had no complaints about the first

But from the middle of the 17th fairway, with an 8-iron in his hand and tied for Woods at 15 under, he caught a plugged lie in the bunker. His shot hit the flag, but that only slowed it enough to leave him a 12-footer, and Lehman missed. Then he botched the sand wedge on No. 18, running his record to 0-7 with at least a share of the 54-hole lead, dating to the 1996 Tour Championship.

"I'm ticked I didn't win." Lehman said after his 73

Even Woods realized in victory that it's a crazy game.

"I hit it great at Mercedes and lost I didn't hit it good here and won," Woods said. "It comes down to making putting. I hit it close enough this week. I had some opportunities to make putts, and I did."

### **Quigley beats Watson in playoff**

KAUPULEHU-KONA, Hawaii - Dana Quigley made a 3-foot par putt on the third playoff hole and beat a faltering Tom Watson on Sunday to win the season-opening Master-Card Championship for the second time in three years.

Watson, who led after the first two rounds, made a bogey after he hit into the lava behind the 17th green at Hualalai Golf Club.

Quigley, who also missed the green long, putted past the hole and made the comeback attempt. He closed with a 6-under 66, but his three-putt from the fringe on the final hole of regulation allowed Watson to move into a tie at 18-under 198.

Watson started the round with three-stroke lead, but missed two 4-foot putts for par on the back nine for his only two bogevs in regulation, closing with a 2-under 70.

# the grind

SEATTLE - The Washington Huskies didn't look forward to playing grind-it-out Washington State.

"It was something we're defi-nitely not used to," Jamaal Williams said. "You just have to tough it out."

Nate Robinson scored 13 points and the No. 10 Huskies moved into a tie for the Pac-10 lead with a 66-48 victory over the Cougars on Sunday

Williams and freshman Joel Smith came off the bench to each score 10 points for the Huskies (16-2, 6-1), who won their 18th straight at home and tied a school record with their 12th straight Pac-10 home win

The Huskies are tied for first with Arizona (6-1), which beat Oregon State 92-83 on Saturday night

It wasn't a classic Washington offensive performance. The Huskies shot a season-worst .359 percent from the field (23-for-64) and 3-for-13 from three-point range, but coach Dick Bennett's ball-control Cougars had a lot to do with that

The purple-clad student sec-tion didn't appreciate the Cougars' deliberate, slowdown tac-tics, chanting, "Boring, boring, boring," in the second half.

Washington came into the game averaging 89.4 points a ond in the nation. The Huskies had their lowest point total of the season. They have scored 100 or more points in four games this

Huskies coach Lorenzo Romar still felt good afterward, though.

"The fact that we were able to win by 18 points despite it not being an uptempo game makes you feel pretty good," he said. "If we would do this every time we play them, we wouldn't have to be

Washington will be in Tucson Thursday night to play Arizona in a showdown game. The Huskies beat the Wildcats three times last

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### Army ends skid by routing Navy

WEST POINT, N.Y. - Matt Bell scored 20 points to help Army snap an eight-game losing streak Sunday and earn its largest victory over arch-rival Navy in 35 years, 63-43.

Grant Carter had 11 points for Army (3-14, 1-4 Patriot League)

and Cory Sinning had 12.

Matt Fannin scored 17 points
for Navy (4-14, 0-5), which suffered its seventh loss in a row.

Navy coach Billy Lange suf-fered the worst loss ever by a Midshipmen coach in his debut against Army.
Bell scored 11 of his 20 points

in the second half as Army outscored the Midshipmen 31-19 in the final 20 minutes.

## Venus, Myskina, Dementieva eliminated

## Hewitt wins in five sets despite injury; Roddick, Davenport also advance

BY PAUL ALEXANDER

The Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Venus Williams lost to Alicia Molik of Australia 7-5, 7-6 (3) Monday in the fourth round of the Australian Open, extending her Grand Slam drought and keeping her from joining sister Serena in the quarterfinals.

Williams was seeking her fifth Grand Slam title and first since winning the 2001 U.S. Open. She reached five finals after that, but hasn't made it past the quarterfinals of a major since injuring an abdominal muscle in mid-2003

Molik the Olympic bronze medalist last year in Athens, will face No. 1 seed and 2000 champion

Lindsay Davenport, who polished off Karo-Davenport, lina Sprem 6-2, 6-2 earlier Monday. It's the first time that Molik, who stretched her winning streak to matches, has reached the quarterfinals of a Grand Slam. "This is a huge feat, I beat Venus," Molik said. "I beat her play-

ing my tennis, and I didn't wait for her to make mis takes, and that's something I can be pretty proud of.

She broke the eighth-seeded Williams at love to finish off the first set, then fought off five break points in the second

Both players held to force a tiebreaker, where Molik showed her best, jumping to a 4-0 lead, then falling again on a running forehand that she netted. She shook it off and finished off the match when Williams weakly hit a forehand into the net.

Molik refused to wilt under Williams' power attack, firing seven aces and other winners that kissed the lines.

"I couldn't quite get a handle on what was going wrong," Williams said. "Normally if I'm playing 5 percent better, I'd win

Molik became the first Australian woman to reach the quarters since Anne Minter 17 years ago. Fellow Aussie Lleyton Hewitt also advanced Monday, overcoming a sore right hip to beat unseed-ed Rafael Nadal 7-5, 3-6, 1-6, 7-6 (3), 6-2 victory

Trying to finish points quickly to limit his movement. Hewitt committed five consecutive errors in the fourth set after going ahead 0-40 while holding a 3-2

He then proved that he deserved his reputation as a battler.

Hewitt got to a tiebreaker and won it, punctuating the points with his trademark fist pumps and shouts of "Come on

That got the fans roaring and

left the 18-year-old Nadal shaking his head Being pushed to five sets

eemed to take some of the steam out of Nadal. He asked for a massage on his left thigh after Hewitt broke twice and ran off a 3-0 lead in the deciding fifth set.

While serving for the match at 5-2, Hewitt had a double-fault and two unforced errors to give Nadal a pair of break points. He fought back to deuce, double-faulted on his first match point and squandered a second, then finished with an ace and a backhand from Nadal that sailed just long after a lengthy rally.

Hewitt dropped to his knees in celebration as the crowd roared. "This crowd is second to none said Hewitt, who also

rallied for Davis Cup victories on the same court. "I was hurting a little bit in the third set. You try to get all the negative thoughts out of your mind.

Hewitt added that the injury, first sustained at a warmup tournament in Sydney, should not affect

him in his next match, when he will face the winner of an all Argentinian match between No. 6 Guillermo Coria and No. 9 David Nalhandian

After three consecutive lefties. Andy Roddick struggled with the serve of right-handed German Philipp Kohlschreiber. But the second-seeded American smacked 15 aces and overcame a second-set letdown to reach the quarterfinals with a 6-3, 7-6 (8),

"I think I actually had a little trouble getting used to a serve coming from a righty, as weird as that sounds," he said

"Took me a little while to get on

He'll face another right-hander next, 25th-seeded Nikolay Davydenko, who beat No. 12 Guillermo Canas 6-3, 6-4, 6-3, Earlier in the tournament, Davydenko eliminated No. 7 Tim Henman.

Roddick allowed 102nd-ranked Kohlschreiber only one break opportunity while he figured out his righty serve. He was erratic in the second set, doubling his number of unforced errors to 12 and throwing his racket to the court after sending a forehand long.

"I don't think I hit the ball as clean as I did in the first three matches," he said. "I just felt like I was fighting it a little bit more. I'm not too concerned. The good thing is I don't feel like I had my best day, and we're here talking about a three-set win

Along with Venus Williams.



Venus Williams, the eighth seed, reacts in frustration during her fourth-round match against 10th-seeded Alicia Molik in the Australian Open at Melbourne Park on Monday. Molik won the match. 7-5, 7-6.



Third-seeded Lleyton Hewitt overcame a hip injury and a 2-1 sets deficit to beat Rafael Nadal in five sets. 7-5. 3-6. 1-6. 7-6. 6-2.

Anastasia Myskina, the French Open champion, and No. 6 Elena Dementieva, the runner-up at the French and U.S. Opens, were

Myskina and Dementieva were among seven Russians to make it to the round of 16, but only Wimbledon champion Maria Sharapova and U.S. Open titlist Svetlana Kuznetsova reached the quarterfi-

They will face each other on Tuesday, when men's No. 1 seed Roger Federer will try to keep his 25-match winning streak alive against four-time Australian Open winner Andre Agassi, seeded eighth.

Myskina had 45 unforced errors in her 6-4, 6-2 loss to 19th-seeded Nathalie Dechy.

"I couldn't focus during the match, I lost a lot of easy balls," Myskina said. "I think I have to forget this match."

Dementieva led 12th-seeded Patty Schnyder by a set and two breaks before losing 6-7 (6), 7-6 (4), 6-2

### Tennis scoreboard

### Australian Open

Monday At Melbourne Park Melbourne, Australia Purse: \$14.5 million (Grand Slam)

Andy Roddick (2), United States, def. Phil-p Kohlschreiber, Germany, 6-3, 7-6 (5), 6-1. Nikolay Paydenko (26), Russia, def. Guirmon Canas (12), Argentina, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3. Lleyton Hewitt (3), Australia, def. Rafael laddi, Spain, 7-5, 3-6, 1-6, 7-6 (3), 6-2.

Women Fourth Round Schnyder (12), Switzerland, def. Jementieva (6), Russia, 6-7 (6), 7-6 (4), r-z. Lindsay Davenport (1), United States, def. (arolina Sprem (13), Croatia, 6-2, 6-2. Nathalie Dechy (19), France, def. Anasta-sia Myskina (3), Russia, 6-4, 6-2.

### Alicia Molik (10), Australia, def. Venus Williams (8), United States, 7-5, 7-6 (3). Doubles

Michael Llodra and Fabrice Santoro (6), France, def. Wesley Moodle, South Africa, and Nenad Zimonjic, Serbia-Montenegro, 6-3, 7-6 (3).

6-3, 7-6 (3).
Tomas Berdych, Czech Republic, and Andrei Pavel, Romania, def. Ashley Fisher, Australia, and Travis Parrott, United States, 6-7 (7), 6-4, 6-3.
Jonas Bjorkman, Sweden, and Max Mirnyi (4), Belarus, def. Simon Aspelin, Sweden, and Todd Perry (16), Australia, 6-2, 4-6, 7-6

Women
Third Round
Anabel Medina Garrigues, Spain, and Dinara Safina, Russia, def. Chuang Chia-jung,
Taiwan, and Rika Fujiwara, Japan, 6-2, 6-3.
Gabriela Navratillova and Michaela Pastikova, Czech Republic, def. Janet Lee, Taiwan,
and Peng Shual, China, 6-2, 4-4, 6-1.

Wayne and Cara Black (2), Zimbabwe, d Rick Leach, United States, and Virgi Ruano Pascual, Spain, 5-7, 7-6 (4), 7-6 (8).



Austria's Hermann Maier, left, is congratulated by second-place finisher Daron Rahlves from the United States after winning the men's World Cup super-G race in Kitzbuehel, Austria, on Monday.

## Maier edges Rahlves in super-G

BY ERICA BULMAN The Associated Press

KITZBUEHEL, Austria -- Hermann Maier of Austria won a super giant slalom Monday for his first World Cup victory this season, and Daron Rahlyes of the United States was a close second despite a bruising, somersaulting spill two weeks ago.

World Cup overall leader Bode Miller shared fifth place.

Austria's Benjamin Raich, Miller's main challenger for the overall crown, was seventh. With the victory, Maier replaced Miller atop the super-G standings.

"I just skied badly," Mille said. "It was horrible execution.

Maier won by 0.02 seconds, racing down the Streifalm course in 1 minute, 22.39 seconds and avenging a loss to Rahlves. The American had won by 0.03 seconds a year ago to hand Maier his first super-G defeat on the famed

slope.
"It's always great to win here on the Austrian mountain," said Maier, who skied in a circle after e and pointed his right index finger to signal he was No. 1 again. "I knew Daron was one the favorites. Coming back after two weeks off after he hurt himself, I knew he would be very motivated.

Austria's Fritz Strohl was third in 1:22.93, and Switzerland's Didier Defago was fourth in 1:23.02 Miller and Norway's Aksel Lund Svindal followed in 1:23.06.

"It's frustrating to ski so badly and finish so close," Miller said. "I put down 15 seconds of good skiing in a minute-and-20 ond-long super-G and still fin-ished fifth. You've got to be happy with that.

Rahlves has 10 World Cup victories and finished fifth in last year's overall standings. He arrived in Kitzbuehel still in pain from the giant slalom crash in Adelboden and was unsure wheth er to race

Maier has four super-G wins at the venue, including a stunning comeback victory just five races after returning from a motorcycle

### Sports briefs

accident in which he nearly lost his leg. He also won the downhill on the slope in 2001. He skipped the Lauberhorn downhill in Wen Switzerland, last week

Miller, watching Raich slowly chip at his overall lead, earned nine noints more than the Austrian on Monday. Miller is first with 1,093 points, 175 ahead of Raich. Maier, the defending overall champion, climbed to third with

## One-third of World Cup tickets will be available to public

FRANKFURT, Germany Only about one-third of the seats for the 2006 World Cup will be available to the public

The seating capacity for the 64 games is 3.37 million, but about 440,000 tickets are reserved for onorary guests and media.

Organizers said Monday about 2.93 million tickets would be available for sale. But this would be reduced by the needs of sponsors. 205 soccer federations that are members of soccer's world governing body and others.

The actual number of tickets available to the public will be limited to about 1.1 million

The first phase of sales, which begins Feb. 1 and mostly online. will offer 812,000 tickets. Each person will be able to order a maximum of 28 tickets — up to four for seven games.

The first phase ends March 31.

Tickets will be distributed through a lottery system. More selling phases will follow — Dec. 1, 2005 to Jan. 15, 2006, Feb. 1, 2006 to April 15, 2006 and May 1 2006 to July 9, 2006.

Tickets range from \$46 to \$784

#### On the Net: FIFA: www.fifaworldcup.com Salzburg is Austria's candidate for 2014 Winter Games

SALZBURG, Austria Salzburg was chosen over Innsbruck on Monday as Austria's candidate for the 2014 Winter Olym-

After failing in a bid for the 2010 Games, Salzburg was picked for a second time by Austria's national Olympic committee. Salzburg was a finalist for the

2010 Olympics, but finished a dis-tant third — behind the winner, Vancouver, British Columbia, and Pyeongchang, South Korea.

South Korea has announced

that Pyeongchang will try again for 2014, while Sweden plans to enter a joint bid by Oestersund and Are. Sofia, Bulgaria, and Munich, Germany, are other possible hidders. The deadline to submit bids is

July 28, 2005. The International Olympic Committee will select finalists in June 2006 and choose the host city in July 2007. The next Winter Olympics are

in Turin, Italy in 2006

#### Lennox Lewis denies reports of comeback

LONDON — Former world heavyweight champion Lennox Lewis denied a published report that said he'll end his retirement to fight Vitali Klitschko in Novem-

The London tabloid the Sunday Mirror quoted Lewis as saying "I'm making a comeback later this year."

But later Sunday, Lewis released a statement saying he was not making a comeback "I want to reiterate what I said

when I retired in February 2004 that I was fortunate to leave the sport on my own terms and that I will be one of the few heavyweight champions in history to retire on top and stay retired," he

Lewis 39 retired Feb 6 with a 41-2-1 record. Klitschko assumed the title April 24 when he beat Corrie Sanders.

Lewis and Klitschko last fought

in June 2003. Lewis was behind on points when the fight was stopped in the sixth round because Klitschko was cut.

That was Lewis' last fight and he was booed out of the ring after a poor performance. The WBC mandated a rematch, but Lewis retired instead

## **Delgado continues** playing the field

The Associated Press

NEW YORK - The New York Mets and Carlos Delgado resumed talks Monday, a day after the free-agent first baseman let the team's deadline for a deal

The Texas Rangers withdrew their offer Sunday, and Delgado's agent, David Sloane, said the Mets had pulled out, too, although the team said it was awaiting a response. Sloane and the Mets talked again Monday, two people with knowledge of the talks said on the condition of anonymity.

Florida and Baltimore were trying to sign Delgado. While the field for Delgado narrowed, former Mets captain John Franco made his decision, agree-

ing Sunday to a \$700,000, one-year contract with the Hous-Astros. And the Yankees added a backup infielder, agreeing to a \$600,000, one-year contract with Rey Sanchez, a deal subject to his passing a physical and finalization of contract language

On Sunday night, after a conversation among Sloane, Mets Chief Operating Officer Jeff Wilpon and General Manager Omar Minaya, New York was unsure where it stood.

"Jeff and I spoke to Mr. Sloane tonight, and we let him know we were trying to get a resolution on this matter this evening," Minaya said in a statement Sunday. "He said he would convey those thoughts to Carlos, and he would call us back after speaking with Carlos. We have yet to receive that callback."

With the Rangers, where Delgado would play became an issue Sunday. "From the first conversation

with the Texas Rangers, we made it crystal clear that Carlos Delgado had no interest in being a full-time DH." Sloane said. "If we had 25 conversations with the Texas Rangers, we were told in 24 of those that the question of him playing first base was no issue. Earlier today, we were told that is changing and that 75 percent of his at-bats, should he choose to sign with the Texas Rangers, would come as a DH.

"After three months of negotiations, we were given less than five hours to tell them yes or no, to make a decision that affects not only the rest of Carlos Delgado's baseball career, but the rest of his

Rangers owner Tom Hicks met with Delgado in Puerto Rico and offered a \$48 million, four-year contract Over the last few days, Tom

Hicks and the organization reached out and made a very strong offer to Carlos Delgado, Texas General Manager John Hart said. "We had a great meeting with Carlos on Friday where we exceeded the limits of our initial proposal. As of this evening, however, we could not get a commitment from him so we are withdrawing from discussions with

we want to continue to be committed with our young players and development plan. We have a first baseman in Mark Teixeira and other young players that we do not want to disrupt with potential position changes. Tom Hicks is not, and was not, afraid to spend money to add players like Carlos to our club.

"He is a quality individual, but

Hicks implied that the Rangers didn't want Delgado to use their offer as a springboard.

Franco, a 44-year-old left-hander, spent his first six seasons with e Cincinnati Reds and the last 15 with his hometown Mets

The four-time All-Star who is second to Lee Smith in career saves with 424, Franco was 2-7 with a 5.28 ERA last year.

"Change is good sometimes," he said. "I've been here for 15 years. It's not going to kill me to be there for 81 days."

Sanchez, 37, also was with the Yankees in the final weeks of the 1997 season, hitting .312 with one homer and 15 RBIs in 38 games.

He batted .246 with two homers and 26 RBIs for Tampa Bay last season.

## Indians, Westbrook avoid arbitration, agree to deal

The Associated Press CLEVELAND - Jake West-

brook, nearly an afterthought beemerging as Cleveland's most consistent starter last season, agreed to a two-year contract with the Indians on Monday and avoided salary arbitration.

Westbrook, who made \$1 million in 2004, asked for \$3.7 million in arbitration and was offered \$2.5 million by the club. His agreement with the Indians includes a team option for 2007

While C.C. Sabathia struggled and youngsters Cliff Lee and Jason Davis had ERAs over 5.00 Westbrook went 14-9 with a 3.38 ERA in 30 starts and was selected an AL All-Star in his first full season in the big leagues. He also had five complete games, tying for the league lead. Cleveland never expected that

type of season from the 27-year-old Westbrook, who went to spring training trying to win a spot in the starting rotation. He began the year as the club's long reliever before becoming a starter at the end of April.

With Westbrook, Sabathia, Lee and newly signed Kevin Millwood, the Indians think they have a starting nucleus capable of keeping them in contention for a playoff berth.

## **Brady leads Pats to third AFC** title in four seasons

BY ALAN ROBINSON The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH - The New England Patriots turned Big Ben into Gentle Ben, and transformed the NFL's best-record team into another overwhelmed opponent that couldn't match the big plays they made, the intensity they brought or the leadership they

The Pittsburgh Steelers and their 15-game winning streak weren't nearly good enough to beat the Patriots with the AFC championship on the line, not even in the stadium where New England was overwhelmed 21/2 months before.

The Patriots' 41-27 rout Sunday night sends them to their third Super Bowl in four seasons time, against the Philadelphia Eagles on Feb. 6 in Jacksonville and was just another in an ever-growing series of playoff performances that could soon stamp them as one of the best teams ever. Tom Brady was too precise, too

determined, and too experienced for Steelers rookie quarterback Ben Roethlisberger to match. Roethlisberger tried getting

away with the same mistakes he made in a great-escape overtime win over the New York Jets the week before but didn't come close

Not against this team, this quarterback, this coach, not even during this improbable Steelers seaon that saw them end the Patriots' record 21-game streak 34-20 on Oct. 31. That performance has driven New England ever since.

It certainly motivated coach Bill Belichick, who blistered his team after what he felt was a poor practice last Wednesday.

Patriots 41. Steelers 27 10 14 7 10-41 3 0 14 10-27

NE—FG Vinatieri 46, ...
NE—Branch 60 pass latieri kick), 6:49.
Pit—FG Reed 43, 1:22 atteri utiki, 7:08.

NE-Harrison 87 interception return Vinatteri kick), 2:14.

Vinatteri kick), 2:14.

Vinatteri kick), 2:14.

NE-Billon 25 run (Vinatteri kick), 10:54.

NE-Billon 25 run (Vinatteri kick), 7:27.

NE-Billon 25 run (Vinatteri kick), 7:27.

Pourth Quarter Nethericon (Vinatteri kick), 7:27.

NE-Branch 23 run (Vinatteri kick), NE-Branch 24 run (Vinatteri kick), NE-Branch 24 run (Vinatteri kick), NE-Branch 24 run (Vinatte

Pit—Burress 7 pass from Roethlisberg-er (Reed kick), :52. A=65,242.

Rushes-yards
Passing
Punt Returns
Kickoff Returns
Interceptions Ret.
Comp-Att-Int
Sacked-Yards Lost
Punts 3-43.0

Rasby 1-6. Missed field goals—None.

"He let us know it," Brady said. "You would have thought we were 0-and-16 the way he spoke to us. It gets everyone in the right frame of mind. He's got great perspective and is a tremendous coach

Belichick's 9-1 playoff record ties Vince Lombardi as the best in NFL playoff history and validates his quarterback's praise.

Brady's 8-0 postseason record

even better, and he showed why he might soon be this genera-tion's Bradshaw or Montana.

While Roethlisberger threw three interceptions, Brady tossed two scoring passes and no interceptions during a nearly flawless

One week it's Peyton Manning, the next it's Big Ben. No matter the opposing quarterback, or the challenge, Brady always seems to

have an answer.
"He is a great leader. He is everything that defines what a lead-er is," offensive lineman Matt Light said of Brady. "He moti-vates this team and he motivates everybody

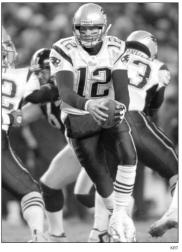
The Steelers came out as cold as the 11-degree weather by turning the ball over on a Roethlisberger-thrown interception and Jerome Bettis' fumble on their first two possessions. Predictably, the Patriots surged to a 10-0 lead on Brady's 60-yard scoring pass to Deion Branch and Adam Vi-natieri's 48-yard field goal, which tied as the longest at Heinz Field.

Branch later set up Brady's 9-yard TD pass to David Givens with a 45-yard catch, and he also had a 23-yard TD run. Roethlisberger also was intercepted for a touchdown for a second consecutive game, by Rodney Harrison for 87 yards to make it 24 21 the first half.

Sound familiar? During the Halloween game, the Steelers forced several turnovers, surged into a 24-3 lead and kept the Patriots from running the ball by building an overwhelming lead.

"We demand a lot from our players," Belichick said "Poss players," Belichick said. "I'm happy they have this kind of achievement to show for it."

All the Steelers have to show for the greatest regular season (15-1)



Patriots quarterback Tom Brady looks to hand off the ball in the first quarter of the AFC championship game against the Steelers on Sunday.

in the franchise's 73-season history is their fourth loss in five AFC title games under coach Bill Cowher since the 1994 season.

It also was the second AFC championship game loss to New England at home in four seasons

This probably hurt the worst of all because their season had been so magical, from Roethlisberger's unexpected emergence to Bettis remarkable comeback season to their consecutive midseason victories over the previously unbeaten Patriots and Eagles.

Now, those teams will play for the Super Bowl trophy that has eluded the Steelers since they

won the last of their four NFL titles in six seasons from 1974-79. The Steelers had a chance to

cut it to 31-24 early in the fourth quarter after driving to a first down at the 5, only to be turned aside on three consecutive plays Then, Cowher effectively halted their momentum by going for Jeff Reed's 20-yard field goal rather than the touchdown, and Pitts-burgh was never in it again.

"I don't think that decided the game by any stretch of the imagi-nation," said Bettis, who ran for 64 yards while being held below 100 yards for the first time in eight starts. "We just couldn't do anything after that."

#### Time finally runs out for Big Ben, Pittsburgh PITTSBURGH The kid showed up record crowd of 65,242 had finished snug-Jim Litke

the best story of the NFL season, the one about the kid who was going to take his team where no rookie quarterback had gone before, ended on a night every bit as cruel as it was cold. And man, was it ever cold.

With the temperature at 11 degrees for kickoff and ice floes jamming the Ohio River alongside Heinz Field, Ben Roethlisberger threw an interception on his first pass and never quite regained his footing, slipping, sliding and stumbling to his worst performance in the biggest game of the Steelers' remarkable season That was no surprise

The man who greased the skids has been making fools of quarterbacks for longer than Roethlisberger has been on the planet

Sometime genius and full-time Patriots Bill Belichick was already a half-dozen years into his career and drawing up defensive schemes for his fourth team by the time Big Ben was born.

"I don't know if there was a better quarterback back there, whether he makes the plays or not. But you saw what they did to Peyton Manning last week," Roethlisberger said, "and what they did to a rookie this

Sunday already at a crossroad, rare for someone whose tenure in the league was measured in months. But such was the fever that took hold in Pittsburgh Roethlisberger, rushed into the starting ioh after Tommy Maddox went down in the

second game of the season, took over the controls of the offense and took off on an unbeaten run that would stretch to 14 games.

There were jokes about renaming the town "Roethlisburgh." The locals con-sumed pound after pound of beef jerky and burgers named after him, and made his No. 7 jersey the league's best-seller.

Sales never slowed even after their nerfect quarterback proved only too imperfect in a 20-17 overtime win against the Jets a week ago. Theories abounded about which Roethlisberger - the cool, confident passer or the skittish rookie - would show up as the AFC championship loomed

The answer came on the third play from scrimmage, even before some in the gling into their seats. Roethlisberger's first throw was high

and hard, thudding off the hands of receiv-er Antwaan Randle El, then tipped by Pats corner Asante Samuel before teammate Eugene Wilson came up with it. That led to New England's first score, a field goal.

Roethlisberger wasn't as lucky the second time he threw an interception; Pats safety Rodney Harrison stepped in front of that one and returned it 87 yards up the left sideline.

"We knew he has happy feet," Harrison said afterward. "He throws the ball up. We knew we could make some plays on him.

"A veteran quarterback who's been in this atmosphere knows the pressure gets bigger and bigger."
The "veteran quarterback" Harrison had

in mind was teammate Tom Brady, who at 27 has three years and four more seasons in the NFL than Roethlisberger. Belichick made no such comparison, but his praise for Brady was even more revealing.

"Tom, to me, is kind of the same guy every day and every game. I don't think the magnitude of the game or the crowd noise or the situation bothers him. He's able to focus on what he has to do.

chick said. "There's no quarterback I would rather have.

Maybe not. But Belichick's second

choice would almost certainly be a rookie like Roethlisberger. While the kid's numbers were brilliant for a first-year performer - a 98 passer rating and a 66 percent completion percentage - it's also true that the rest of the league began to make up ground as the season wore on.

Roethlisberger had a dozen excuses available: inexperience, an injured thumb, a running game that suddenly lost much of its grit and most of its punch, a game plan so unimaginative that he never had a chance. He didn't avail himself of even one.
"Not everything is fair," Roethlisberger

said. "You have to realize that. Only one team is going to end the season the way they wanted to, and that is the Super Bowl champs. We will rebound. This will be a big offseason for me and this offense.'

And with that, the kid turned, walked through the door and out into the bone-chilling cold, a little bruised and a lot smarter for the lesson the genius and his defense had just taught him.

Jim Litke is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press, Write to him at: jlitke@ap.or.

## Finally, Philly getting shot at Super Bowl

BY PAUL NEWBERR

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA - Fireworks soared above the roof of "The Linc." A blizzard of glitter swirled in the bitterly cold breeze

Fans toasted their team and each other with beers and hugs.

It was a Super-sized celebration four years in the making. And quite a relief, too.

Yo, Philly, how's this sound? Your Eagles are going to the Super Bowl.

Donovan McNabb & Co. overcame the burden of three straight losses in the NFC championship game and warmed a frozen city's heart, stuffing Michael Vick and the Atlanta Falcons 27-10 on Sunday

McNabb isn't satisfied vet.

"There's no relief for me," he said, "We'll have relief after the Super Bowl We set a goal of winning the Super Bowl, not just the NFC. So that's where I'm going We're excited, but we're not done

The Eagles already have soothed a city's fragile psyche, burying the disappointment of the last three years and pulling within one victory of Philly's first major pro championship since the 76ers won the NBA title in 1983

Twenty-four years ago, the Eagles made it to their first — and, until Sunday, only - Super Bowl with a team coached by Dick Vermeil and led by Ron Jaworski. They fell flat in the title game, losing to the Raiders 27-10

That score went the Eagles way this time. They will meet New England in Jacksonville, Fla., on Feb. 6 for the NFL cham pionship.

"We want to go to Jacksonville and get some closure and finish



Philadelphia Eagles defender Brian Dawkins (20) reacts after a third quarter interception of Atlanta Falcons guarterback Michael Vick, With Dawkins are teammates Dhani Jones (55) and Lito Sheppard (26).

this up," receiver Freddie Mitch-

The fourth consecutive appearance in the NFC title game proved to be the charm for the Eagles, even though they didn't have top receiver Terrell Owens duced to the role of MVC (Most Valuable Cheerleader) on the sideline

Nothing was going to stand in the way of this team, which entered the season with a Super Bowl or Bust mentality and met those enormous expectations

McNabb threw a pair of touchdown passes to Chad Lewis, including the clinching score with 3:21 remaining. That turned the final minutes into a delirious coronation, the 67,717 fans saluting a team that fulfilled its destiny.

"Super Bowl! Super Bowl!" they chanted when play was halted for the two-minute warning.

The only warm-weather team left in the playoffs went cold in its biggest game of the year. Vick was sacked four times by the fearsome Philly defense, which also came un with a crucial intercention that set up David Akers' second field goal.

The significance of the day was evident on the field - the Eagles pranced and posed after every big play — and in the stands, where most of the fans never bothered to sit down on a 17-degree day.

The Eagles will be going for their first NFL title since 1960 which predates the Super Bowl by six seasons.

McNabb completed 17 of 26 passes for 180 yards, a workmanlike performance that solidified his position as one of the game's

best quarterbacks. He also ran 10 times for 32 yards Vick's debut on the Super Bowl stage will have to wait. He completed just 11-for-24 for 136 vards, while the Eagles stifling defense kept him from pulling off

one of his signature runs. He ran it just four times for 26 yards, but gave up even more vards on the sacks. Derrick Burgess dropped the elusive quarterback twice, and Jevon Kearse kept Vick hemmed up on the other side. The Eagles didn't blitz

much - a change in philosophy — but they made sure Vick didn't get a chance to warm up.

"I didn't get outside the pock et," Vick said. "I think that was their first priority.

Philadelphia led only 14-10 at halftime a hit too close for a team that had lost to St. Louis, Tampa Bay and Carolina in the last three NFC title games. Even more galling - the two more recent defeats were at home.

But, as the sun gave way to a nearly full moon over Lincoln Financial Field, the Eagles dominated the final two quarters. Akers connected from 31 and 34 yards, then McNabb and Lewis teamed up to finish off the Falcons with their 2-vard touchdown.

Owens, who didn't play because of a severe ankle injury, had a prominent role nonetheless He drew plenty of attention with his sideline antics, flapping his arms and waving a towel to urge on a crowd that didn't need any encouragement.

And he may just recover in time for the Super Bowl.

"I have a feeling he will," Reid

Owens' teammates filled in admirably. McNabb worked his passes around to eight players. led by Brian Westbrook with five catches for 39 yards. Westbrook also handled the bulk of the running load, carrying 16 times for 96 yards.

Then, it was time for the party Philly-style.

"This is their fourth trip in a row to the championship game, said Jim Mora, the Falcons' rookie coach. "They've been in this position before, and they played like they've been in this position be-

It was a great season for the Falcons, who came within one win of their second Super Bowl after going 5-11 last season. With Vick at quarterback, the future looks

## Vick, Falcons can't warm up in title game loss

BY PAUL NEWBERRY

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA - Michael Vick trotted onto the field for the first time and shook his arms, trying to get the blood flowing on a frigid day in Philly.

Unfortunately for Vick and the Atlanta Falcons, he never warmed up.

The Philadelphia Eagles stifled Vick in the NFC championship game, stuffing the one-of-a-kind quarterback with a defense that laid off its customary blitz and just made sure he didn't escape the pocket

The result: Philly romped to a 27-10 victory, moving on to the Super Bowl. The Falcons, meanwhile, will have to be content with their comeback year, going from 5-11 to one win away from the NFL title game.

Eighteen games into the season, Vick said he's still got a lot to learn about the West Coast offense which was installed by rookie coach Jim Mora and his staff.

"It's going to take time," Vick said. "But next year, I promise, it's going to be a better year and I'm excited about it."

With all the pressure on him to carry the Falcons. Vick instead was downright mediocre. The relentless Eagles defense sacked him four times and shut down his running lanes, ensuring he didn't turn an ordinary looking play into something spectacular.

Warrick Dunn was neutralized, too, and the Falcons offense could do little else - especially in the second half.

Coming off a strong effort in a win last week against St. Louis Vick hardly posted numbers good enough to get the Falcons to a Super Bowl. Vick was 11-for-24 for a modest 136 yards and an intercention, and was held to 26 vards rushing on four carries.

Defensive end Derrick Burgess harassed Vick mercilessly, and

Vick seemed rattled while look ing for receivers who were rarely open. Burgess sacked the elusive quarterback twice, and Hollis Thomas and Jevon Kearse also got sacks for a total loss of 33 yards. Eagles linebacker Keith

Adams added seven tackles and a deflected pass.

"Nobody respected us as a defense. Give me some respect right now," Philadelphia's Brian Dawkins said.

Vick was shaken up early in the first quarter when Burgess crushed him after an incomplete

Vick had his fewest yards rushing in an entire game since Week 1 against San Francisco, when he ran for 10. In the season finale when he barely played against Seattle, Vick ran for 13 yards.

'They had Jevon Kearse on one end and another good defensive lineman (Burgess) on the other end keeping good containment and making sure that I didn't get outside the pocket." Vick said.

"They did a great job doing it, and the coverage they played in the secondary, they didn't allow our receivers to get off blocks and get downfield Vick gained half of his yards

rushing against the Eagles on one play - his only dazzling run of the game.

After an interception by Brown was wiped out on a holding penaltv. Vick took off like he alone could again be enough to lead the

He dashed right, eluded Burgess and Kearse on the outside, then cut back up toward the middle for a 13-yard gain.

That was about the only highlight. Eagles quarterback Koy Detmer had as many yards passing on a fake field goal attempt in the first quarter (3) than Vick (3). "There is a lot we can take away from this season," Vick

"Overall, we had a great season, a great year for a team that is just a first-year team playing to-

### Eagles 27. Falcons 10

Philadelphia
First Quarter
Phi—Levens 4 run (Akers kick), 4:16.
Second Quarter
Atl—FG Feely 23, 10:19.
Phi—CLewis 3 pass from McNabb
(Akers kick), 4:58.
Atl—Dunn 10 run (Feely kick), 2:02.

Third Quarter Phi—FG Akers 31, 8:55.

Phi-FG Akers 34, 2:00. Fourth Qui Phi—C.Lewis 2 pass (Akers kick), 3:21. A—67.717.

Atl Phi
14 22
202 326
26-99 33-156
103 170
2-20 1-(-4)
5-117 3-54
0-0 1-19
11-24-1 18-27-0
4-33 2-13 First downs Total Net Yard Rushes-yards Passing Punt Returns Kickoff Return ed-Yards Lost 4-33 2-13 5-26.0 3-38.3

Fumbles-Lost

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS Rushing-Atlanta, Dunn 15-59, Vick 4-26, Duckett 7-14. Philadelphia, West-brook 16-96, McNabb 10-32, Levens 6-18, G.Lewis 1-10. Passing—Atlanta, Vick 11-24-1-136. Philadelphia, McNabb 17-26-0-180, K.Det-

mer 1-1-0-3.

Receiving—Atlanta, Crumpler 4-49, 
Price 2-37, Finneran 1-29, Jenkins 1-7, 
White 1-7, Dunn 1-4, McCrary 1-3, Phila
delphia, Westbrook 5-39, CLewis 4-20, 
3.Lewis 2-56, Mitchell 2-20, Lewens 2-2, 
Smith 1-21, Pinkston 1-13, Parry 1-3. 
Missed field goals—None.

## **Eagles TE Lewis out for Super Bowl; Owens uncertain**

The Associated Pres

PHILADELPHIA — Philadelphia Eagles tight end Chad Lewis will miss the Super Bowl with a foot injury.

Lewis, who caught two touchdown passes in Philadelphia's 27-10 victory over Atlanta in the NFC championship game Sunday, will have surgery on Wednesday. He was hurt on his second TD grab, a 2-yard catch that sealed the victory.

Meanwhile, All-Pro wide receiver Terrell Owens' status is uncertain. Owens has been sidelined with an ankle injury since Dec. 19. Eagles coach Andy Reid said Owens has made "great progress," and will try to run on the ankle this week

Lewis' injury, called a Lis



Franc sprain, is more common in automobile accidents and equestrian sports.

Eagles All-Pro safety Brian Dawkins missed nine games last season with a similar injury that wasn't as severe and didn't require surgery. In 2000, Eagles running back Duce Staley had surgery and missed the final 13 games, including playoffs, with an injury to the same joint

Second-year pro L.J. Smith will take Lewis' spot in the starting lineup against New England in the Super Bowl on Feb. 6. Mike Bartrum, also the long snapper, is the only other tight end on the roster. Reid said the team will try to add another tight end this week. Lewis backed up Bartrum as the long snapper.

Lewis, a three-time Pro Bowl selection, had 29 catches for 267 yards and three TDs in the regular season. His role had been reduced with the emergence of Smith, a second-round draft pick from Rutgers in 2003.

### ABC: Owens was second choice in towel skit — to Madden

LOS ANGELES — ABC's first choice for the infamous "Monday Night Football" dropped towel episode wasn't Terrell Owens — it was announcer John Madden.

For reasons that are unclear, Madden couldn't find the time to perform for the skit. Owens, the Philadelphia Eagles receiver, filled in for him in the steamy sketch that drew viewer protests and a network apology, said ABC entertainment president Stephen

McPherson on Sunday.

In the spoof that preceded the football game Nov. 15, "Desperate Housewives" actress Nicollette Sheridan persuaded Owens to skip the game by dropping the towel wrapped around her and

ABC initially thought it would be funny to have the, uh, less attractive Madden as the subject of Sheridan's ardor, McPherson said.

jumping into his arms.

The towel-dropping was another last-minute addition to the script that plainly backfired, said Marc Cherry, executive producer

of "Desperate Housewives," wh helped write it.

Cherry said it was all a mistake. But he and McPherson both said they were surprised at the reaction

"I feel really bad about it," Cherry said. "I didn't want to upset people. I didn't realize that 'Monday Night Football' was such a family viewing experience. I wouldn't let my 5-year-old watch beer commercials with big-busted cheerleaders, but that's just

Sheridan, appearing before television writers Sunday, said the purpose was simply to amuse people.

"Taking a pop culture incident like that and having it take precedence over the underlying problems of the world was absurd," Sheridan said.

## Super: Eagles clear one hurdle, find tougher test in Jacksonville

SUPER, FROM BACK PAGE

Owens and easily beat Minnesota and Atlanta in its two playoff games. That finally got the Eagles past the conference championship game they lost for three straight seasons and sent them on to Jacksonville, a relief perhaps more to their hypercritical and terminally insecure fans than to the players.

The Eagles are certainly worthy — getting to a championship game four straight years is an accomplishment, even if you lose the first three.

In Donovan McNabb, Philadelphia has a quarterback who has been in the running for the NFL's MVP award every year since 2000 but this one. And that was only because Peyton Manning broke Dan Marino's record for touchdown passes in a season and was nearly a unanimous choice.

In coach Andy Reid and his staff, especially coordinators Jim Johnson (defense) and Brad Childress (offense) they have a trio that compares favorably with Belichick and his two chief lieutenants: Romeo Crennel and Charlie Weis.

So they have some reason to be optimistic.

But the Patriots demonstrated in beating a Pittsburgh team, that had won 15 straight, that they are special, most notably because they are a team in the truest

"Nobody cares about individuistas, just about winning, including our quarterback." said Adam Vinatieri, who stays in the background until — as he has done twice — he kicks the winning field goal as time is expiring in the Super Bowl.

So while that quarterback, Tom Brady, has become a major star and Vinatieri, Richard Seymour, Corey Dillon, Tedy Bruschi, Rodney Harrison and Willie McGinest are lesser luminaries, there is always someone with little name recognition making a big play. Brady and Harrison made them Sunday, Harrison's an 87-yard interception a turn but desecond the second properties of the second 24-3 lead at intermission.



Wide receiver Deion Branch exemplifies the New England Patriots' team-first philosophy that has taken them to two Super Bowl titles.

But there were others, too, like Deion Branch, who caught a 60-yard touchdown pass and ran 23 yards for another score. And Jarvis Green, who filled in so well that no one noticed that Seymour, a Pro Bowler in three of his four seasons, was out again with a knee injury, and Rosevelt Colvin egated to spot duty after missing most of last season with a hip injury, and Eugene Wilson, a second-year safety who had two interceptions.

The Patriots coaches, in fact, are bigger names than their players: Belichick tied Vince Lombardi on Sunday for the best winning

percentage in playoff history (.900); Weis has already been hired as head coach at Notre Dame; and Crennel will almost surely be hired as Cleveland's head coach after the Super Bowl.

Wilson suggested after Sunday's win that maybe some of his teammates should get more individual recognition.

"I think we've got a lot of players that are overlooked because people think of us as such a team," he said, naming Harrison, Bruschi and Brady.

That's borne out by the Pro Bowl selections: Philadelphia has nine, led by McNabb and Owens. New England has four: Brady. Seymour, Vinatieri and special teamer Larry Izzo.
But the betting public clearly thinks otherwise.
In fact, the line probably

wouldn't be much different if Owens were healthy. The Eagles' star receiver strutted on the sideline and postured for the television cameras during Sunday's game, and Reid said afterward that he could be ready for the Super Bowl. Belichick' He actually acknowl-

edged that his team had played well, something he does rarely. "There's a lot of blood and sweat that's put out there and I'm

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happy that they have this kind of achievement to show for it," he said. "I've never been around a harder working bunch. They're a special group of guys."

They'll probably be even more special in a couple of weeks.



## Ticket trouble awaits fans in Jacksonville

BY TIM REYNOLDS

on Plourde hosted a small house party when his beloved New Enteron 2002 Super Bowl, and he'll never forget Adam Vinatieri's kick sailing through the uprights

to beat St. Louis for the title.

At that moment, food sailed off plates, drinks sloshed from glasses and every phone in the house land lines and cells — began ringing simultaneously, as other long-suffering Patriots fans called just to scream joyous, maniacal thoushts at one another.

"I figured the only thing better than that was to see it happen in person," said Plourde, the baseball coach and an exercise science teaching associate at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. "And when the Pats went back last year, I had to see that game."

So, carrying plenty of cash and hope, Plourde, his brother and a few friends set off to secure one of sports' toughest tickets and fulfill their Super Bowl viewing odys-

Yet after a four-hour flight from Albany to Dallas (the fare was hundreds less than going to Houston), followed by a four-hour drive and two days of on-foot searching for anyone willing to part with a prized ducat, Plourde eventually watched the Patriots win another Super Bowl

on television, in a restaurant.
 He couldn't find a seat there, ei-

Instead, Plourde crammed into a space with other unsuccessful ticket-seekers, watched the

game, drove back to Dallas and caught an early morning flight home — in time to run baseball practice Monday afternoon.

"It was great to see them win, believe me," said Plourde, who never found anyone selling a ticket below his \$1,000 spending cap.

"But I'd say that the whole experience was more frustrating than anything else. There had to be 15,000 other Patriots fans in the same position I was; just awe-struck and out of luck."

Tickets for this year's Super Bowl are being sold on the Internet for \$5,000 or more. Those few hotels with a room or two still available because of cancellations are getting top-dollar prices. And low-cost flight and rental car options are long gone, meaning fans still without tickets or travel timeraries will find getting to

Jacksonville for the game a de manding task.

Hotel availability is already scarce even two hours away from Alltel Stadium, where the AFC and NFC champions will play Feb. 6 for the NFL title. Flights are booked virtually solid, meaning late-planning fans without thousands in disposable cash are settling for flights to airports in Tampa, Orlando and Atlanta.

And travel agents and teams expect to be flooded with calls from desperate ticket-seekers Sunday night, after the AFC and NFC winners are decided.

"That's when the mad rush comes," said Brian Wilder, president of Premiere Sports Travel, based in Cary, N.C. "When people know their team is going, we immediately start getting phone calls. Last year when Carolina was in the game, we had eight peo-

ple reserve online 30 seconds after the NFC championship game was over."

game was over."

Wilder's company can get you there, place you in a hotel and get you a ticket — but it's not cheap. Sleeping four to a room will cost about \$3,900 apiece; single rooms will run around \$5,400 for a

three-night stay.
"The Super Bowl is the biggest sporting event in the world," Wilder said. "And we like to say we make people's dreams come

With a finite number of seats available — Alltel Stadium holds about 79,000 fans — supply for Super Bowl tickets will never come close to satisfying the demand. The league office controls 25.2 percent of the tickets, which are doled out to NFL-affiliated companies, corporate sponsors, charities and local organizers.

The two teams will each receive 17.5 percent of the tickets, which are primarily distributed to season-ticket holders through ottery—and some clubs offer those who bought higher-prices eason packages a better chance of winning the right to buy Super Bowl tickets at \$500 or more

Jacksonville, the host team, received 5 percent of the tickets; the remaining NFL clubs each get 1.2 percent of the available seats.

"It's not just people in suits," said NFL spokesman Greg Aiello. "It's a real football crowd. It's a wide distribution."

There will also be an inevitable criminal element preying on desperate ticket-seekers. Hundreds of fans were turned away in Houston last year because their tickets - some purchased for more than \$2,500 on the street — were counterfeit.

Genuine Super Bowl tickets carry a hologram, plus have other security layers which fans can recognize. Aiello warns fans not to purchase tickets from non-reputable agents.

"We keep our ears to the ground through our various sources to make sure we're aware of anything unusual or improper," Aiello said. "Every year we try to make sure that fans understand how Super Bowl tickets are prepared, what to look for and that they should be careful about the source of their purchase."

Plourde doesn't plan to spend this Super Bowl weekend chasing tickets, even if the Patriots defeat Pittsburgh on Sunday and earn the right to play in their third Super Bowl in four years.

Some of his friends have already booked flights to Orlando – again, because fares were considerably lower than Jacksonville – and will carry that same hope of finding their way into the stadium for football's biggest game.

But if Plourde, a Patriots' season-ticket holder, doesn't win his tickets through the team's distribution lottery, he'll happily watch from his couch.

"There's the fear of counterfeit tickets and the fear of going through last year all over again," Plourde said. "I'm just not sure it's worth it. I want to make sure I enjoy the game."



NEX



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## **SPORTS**



Wild weekend ends with Woods victory in Buick Invitational, Page 29

# Will it be Eagles' time ... or a team for all-time?

Philly seeks first Super Bowl title; Pats playing for third in four years

BY DAVE GOLDBERG

The Associated Press

The Super Bowl matchup is as it should be: the best team in the AFC against the best team in the NFC. The problem for the Philadelphia Eagles is that the AFC club

looks like it might be a team for the ages. That, of course, would be the New England Patriots, who have won two of the past three NFL championships and are favored over the Eagles by 7 points, a spread that is likely to go up. Three hours after New England took apart Ben Roethlisberg-er and Pittsburgh 41-24 Sunday evening, enough money had come in on the Patriots that the line jumped a half point.

That is as it should be as the attention of the sporting world turns to Jacksonville for the game on Feb. 6.

Officials in north Florida already are on high security alert, rerouting traffic, beefing up Coast Guard patrols, even inspect-

ing up Coast order partons, even inspecting manholes at they prepare for the attention the Patriots and Eagles will receive. Especially the Patriots, who are trying for their third Super Bowl victory in four years — a feat accomplished only by Dallas from 1992-95.

"Dynasty" probably isn't the right word for what they might accomplish — four

years is a short dynasty.
But after Sunday's game, more than a
few people were comparing Bill BelichickSe Patriots to the Joe MontanaSteve
Young/Jerry Rice/Romie Lott San Franicso teams that won five Super Bowls between 1981 and 1994. The 49ers might
tween 1981 and 1994. The 49ers might
and the work of the property of the contraction of the property of the constantial with the property of the conGiants, Bears and Cowboys teams during
that period.

This is not to slight the Eagles, by far the best team in the NFC in a season in which that conference was as down as any has been in a long time.

They were 13-1 and dominating when Terrell Owens went out with a knee injury on Dec. 19. Philadelphia rested regulars and lost two games, but came back without

**SEE SUPER ON PAGE 34** 



Philadelphia Eagles linebacker Jeremiah Trotter celebrates after stopping Atlanta Falcons running back Warrick Dunn for a 3-yard loss in the second quarter of the NFC championship game on Sunday. The Eagles defeated the Falcons 27-10.



New England Patriots RB Corey Dillon breaks away from Pittsburgh Steelers Chris Hope, left, and Troy Polamalu for a 25-yard TD during the third quarter of the AFC championship game.



Patriots' Eugene Wilson (26) and Tedy Bruschi celebrate after Wilson intercepted Steelers QB Ben Roethlisberger's first pass of the AFC title game. The Pats had three interceptions in the game.



Patriots make Roethlisberger look like rookie QB, end Steelers' 15-game winning streak

Page 32





After three consecutive misses, Eagles get over NFC hurdle with victory over Falcons

Page 33



Venus' major drought continues in Australian Page 30

